

GWG Holdings, Inc.  
Form S-1/A  
January 07, 2015

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 7, 2015

Registration Nos. 333-197227 and  
333-197227-01

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

AMENDMENT NO. 6 TO

**FORM S-1**

REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
*Under the Securities Act of 1933*

**GWG HOLDINGS, INC.  
GWG LIFE, LLC**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
Delaware

26-2222607  
20-4356955

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(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

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(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

220 South Sixth Street, Suite 1200  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Tel: (612) 746-1944  
Fax: (612) 746-0445

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

**Jon R. Sabes**  
Chief Executive Officer  
220 South Sixth Street, Suite 1200  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Tel: (612) 746-1944

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

*Copies to:*  
**Paul D. Chestovich, Esq.**  
**Maslon Edelman Borman &  
Brand, LLP**  
3300 Wells Fargo Center  
90 South Seventh Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
55402  
Tel: (612) 672-8200

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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: from time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

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 definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer       Accelerated filer       Non-accelerated filer       Smaller reporting company

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of Each Class of Securities to Be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee <sup>(2)</sup>
L Bonds	\$1,000,000,000	(1)	\$1,000,000,000	\$ 128,800.00

(1) The L Bonds will be issued in minimum denominations of \$25,000 and in \$1,000 increments in excess of such minimum amount.

(2) Previously paid.

**The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.**

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The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted

**Subject to Completion, dated January 7, 2015**

## **GWG HOLDINGS, INC.**

### **\$1,000,000,000 of L Bonds**

GWG Holdings, Inc., through its subsidiaries, invests in life insurance assets in the secondary marketplace. Our objective is to earn returns from our investments in life insurance assets that are greater than the costs necessary to purchase, finance and service those policies to their maturity.

We are offering up to \$1,000,000,000 in L Bonds (the L Bonds ) in this offering. This is a continuous offering and there is no minimum amount of L Bonds that must be sold before we can use any of the proceeds. The proceeds from the sale of the L Bonds will be paid directly to us following each sale and will not be placed in an escrow account. We will use the net proceeds from the offering of the L Bonds primarily to purchase and finance additional life insurance assets, and to service and retire other outstanding debt obligations. The minimum investment in L Bonds is \$25,000. Investments in excess of such minimum amount may be made in \$1,000 increments. The L Bonds will be sold with varying maturity terms, interest rates and frequency of interest payments, all as set forth in this prospectus and in supplements we publish from time to time. Depending on our capital needs and the amount of your investment, L Bonds with certain terms may not always be available. Although we will periodically establish and change interest rates on unsold L Bonds offered pursuant to this prospectus, once an L Bond is sold, its interest rate will not change during its term (subject, however, to the extension and renewal provisions contained in such L Bond). Upon maturity, subject to the terms and conditions described in this prospectus, the L Bonds will be automatically renewed for the same term at the interest rate we are offering at that time to other investors with similar aggregate L Bond portfolios for L Bonds of the same maturity, unless redeemed upon maturity at our or your election.

The L Bonds are secured by the assets of GWG Holdings, Inc. and a pledge of all of the common stock by our largest stockholders. Importantly, GWG Holdings' most significant assets are cash and its investment in subsidiaries. Obligations under the L Bonds will be guaranteed by our subsidiary GWG Life, LLC, which guarantee will involve the grant of a security interest in all of the assets of such subsidiary. The majority of our life insurance assets are held in our subsidiary GWG DLP Funding II, LLC, which is a direct subsidiary of GWG Life. The life insurance assets held by GWG DLP Funding II will not be collateral for obligations under the L Bonds although the guarantee and collateral provided by GWG Life will include its ownership interest in GWG DLP Funding II. These facts present the risk to investors that the collateral security we and our subsidiary have granted for our obligations under the L Bonds may be insufficient to repay the L Bonds upon an event of default. The security offered for the L Bonds will provide rights as to collateral that are pari passu with the holders of other secured debt previously issued by GWG Life and GWG Holdings. This generally means that claims for payment and entitlement to security among the holders of L Bonds and such other secured debt previously issued by GWG Life and GWG Holdings will be treated equally and without preference.

We may call and redeem the entire outstanding principal and accrued but unpaid interest of any or all of the L Bonds at any time without penalty or premium. L Bond holders will have no right to put (that is, require us to redeem) any L Bond prior to the due date unless in the case of death, bankruptcy or total disability. In the event we agree to redeem an L Bond upon the request of an L Bond holder other than after death, bankruptcy or total disability of such holder we will impose a redemption fee of 6% against the outstanding principal balance of the redeemed L Bond. This redemption fee will be subtracted from the amount paid.

We do not intend to list our L Bonds on any securities exchange during the offering period, and we do not expect a secondary market in the L Bonds to develop. As a result, you should not expect to be able to resell your L Bonds regardless of how we perform. Accordingly, an investment in our L Bonds is not suitable for investors that require liquidity in advance of their L Bond's maturity date.

We maintain a senior borrowing arrangement that subordinates the right to payment on, and shared collateral securing, the L Bonds to our senior secured lender. From time to time we may add or replace senior lenders and the particular arrangements under which we borrow from them. In addition, these borrowing arrangements with senior lenders restrict, and are expected to continue to restrict, our cash flows and, subject to certain exceptions, distributions from our operating subsidiaries. These provisions will restrict cash flows available for payment of principal and interest on the L Bonds.

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We are an emerging growth company under applicable law and are subject to reduced public company reporting requirements. Please read the disclosures on page 8 of this prospectus for more information. Investing in our L Bonds may be considered speculative and involves a high degree of risk, including the risk of losing your entire investment. See Risk Factors beginning on page 19 to read about the risks you should consider before buying our L Bonds. You should carefully consider the risk factors set forth in this prospectus. The L Bonds are only suitable for persons with substantial financial resources and with no need for liquidity in this investment.

Please read this prospectus before investing and keep it for future reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports with the SEC. This information will be available free of charge by contacting us at 220 South Sixth Street, Suite 1200, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 or by phone at (612) 746-1944 or on our website at [www.gwglife.com](http://www.gwglife.com). The SEC also maintains a website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) that contains such information.

**Neither the SEC nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

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The L Bonds will be offered and sold on a best-efforts basis by Emerson Equity LLC, a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Emerson Equity will be our placement agent for the L Bonds in this offering for purposes of the Securities Act of 1933. Emerson Equity may retain other dealers to act as an agent on its behalf in the course of offering and selling L Bonds in this offering. We will pay Emerson Equity a selling commission ranging from 0.75% to 6.00% of the principal amount of L Bonds sold, depending on the L Bonds maturity date. We will also pay Emerson Equity additional compensation consisting of a dealer-manager fee, a wholesaling fee (payable only to wholesaling dealers), and an accountable expense allowance. Emerson Equity will share its commissions and accountable expense allowance with other dealers who may participate in the offering. We have also agreed to reimburse Emerson Equity for certain pre-offering expenses that we anticipate will aggregate to no more than \$30,000. The total amount of the selling commissions and additional compensation (including reimbursements, non-transaction-based and non-cash selling compensation) paid to Emerson Equity and any other FINRA member in the course of offering and selling L Bonds will not exceed 8.00% of the aggregate L Bonds. See Plan of Distribution and Use of Proceeds for further information.

	<u>Price to Investor</u>	<u>Aggregate Commissions, Fees, and Expense Allowances (1) (2)</u>	<u>Net Proceeds to Company</u>
<b>Minimum Investment</b>	\$ 25,000	\$ 1,812	\$ 23,188(3)
<b>Offering</b>	\$ 1,000,000,000	\$ 80,000,000	\$ 920,000,000(4)

(1) Assumes an average sales commission of 5.00%, average dealer-manager fee of 0.50%, average wholesaling fees of 1.30%, and average accountable expense allowance of 1.20%. As explained above, actual commissions will vary based on the term of the L Bonds sold. Nevertheless, the total amount of selling commissions and additional compensation (consisting of dealer-manager fees, wholesaling fees and accountable expense allowance, together with non-transaction-based and non-cash selling compensation, if any) paid to the placement agent will not exceed 8.00% of the aggregate gross offering proceeds we receive from the sale of the L Bonds sold. Accordingly, and assuming our sale of all \$1,000,000,000 in principal amount of bonds offered hereby, the maximum amount of selling commissions we can pay is 6.00% of the gross offering proceeds we receive from the sale of the L Bonds (or \$60,000,000), the maximum dealer-manager fee we can pay is 0.50% of the gross offering proceeds we receive from the sale of the L Bonds (or \$5,000,000), and the maximum amount of aggregated accountable expenses, wholesaling fees, non-transaction-based and non-cash selling compensation we can pay will not exceed 2.50% of the aggregate gross offering proceeds we receive from the sale of the L Bonds. If all L Bonds sold have seven-year maturities resulting in sales commissions of 6.00%, then the maximum amounts of aggregate accountable expenses, wholesaling fees, non-transaction-based and non-cash selling compensation will not exceed 1.5%.

(2) Emerson Equity has agreed to offer the L Bonds on a best efforts basis.

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- (3) Net Proceeds to Company based on the Minimum Investment are calculated after deducting (i) selling commissions and (ii) additional compensation (consisting of a dealer-manager fee, wholesaling fee, an accountable expense allowance and non-transaction-based and non-cash selling compensation). We expect that our own offering expenses, consisting of legal, accounting, printing, mailing, registration, qualification and associated securities offering filing costs and expenses, will through the course of the offering aggregate to approximately \$1,500,500, but for purposes of illustrating the Net Proceeds to Company based on the Minimum Investment, those offering expenses of \$1,500,500 are not reflected.
- (4) Net Proceeds to Company based on the offering of \$1,000,000,000 in principal amount of L Bonds are calculated as described in fn. 3 above, but also after deducting our own expected offering expenses of \$1,500,500.

We will issue the L Bonds in book-entry form, certificated form, or in the form of a global certificate deposited with a depository. Depending on the manner in which you purchase L Bonds, you may not receive a physical certificate representing your L Bonds. In all cases, however, we will deliver written confirmation to purchasers of L Bonds. Bank of Utah will act as trustee for the L Bonds.

The initial interest rates for the L Bonds based on the applicable maturity thereof is set forth in the table below.

<u>Maturity Term</u>	<u>Interest Rate (%)</u>
6 months	4.25
1 year	5.00
2 years	6.50
3 years	7.50
5 years	8.50
7 years	9.00

We may change the interest rates applicable to unsold L Bonds from time to time during this offering, in which case the applicable interest rates will be set forth in an interest rate supplement to this prospectus. Once an L Bond is sold, the interest rate will not change during its term (subject, however, to the extension and renewal provisions contained in such L Bond).

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 220 South Sixth Street, Suite 1200  
 Minneapolis, MN 55402  
 Tel: (612) 746-1944  
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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

We have prepared this prospectus as part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC for our continuous offering of L Bonds. Periodically, as we make material investments or have other material developments, we will provide a prospectus supplement that may add to, update or change information contained in this prospectus. We will endeavor to avoid interruptions in the continuous offering of our L Bonds. Nonetheless, our continuous offering may be suspended while the SEC or FINRA reviews certain amendments to our registration statement, until ultimately declared effective by the SEC.

Any statement that we make in this prospectus will be modified or superseded by any inconsistent statement made by us in a subsequent prospectus supplement. The registration statement we filed with the SEC includes exhibits that provide more detailed descriptions of the matters discussed in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, the related exhibits filed with the SEC, and any prospectus supplement, together with additional information described below under Where You Can Find More Information. In this prospectus, we use the term day to refer to a calendar day, and we use the term business day to refer to any day other than Saturday, Sunday, a legal holiday or a day on which banks in New York City are authorized or required to close.

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. Neither we nor the dealer-manager have authorized any other person to provide you with any information different from that contained in this prospectus or information furnished by us upon request as described herein. The information contained in this prospectus is complete and accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or sale of our L Bonds. This prospectus contains summaries of certain other documents, which summaries contain all material terms of the relevant documents and are believed to be accurate, but reference is hereby made to the full text of the actual documents for complete information concerning the rights and obligations of the parties thereto. Such information necessarily incorporates significant assumptions, as well as factual matters. All documents relating to this offering and related documents and agreements, if readily available to us, will be made available to a prospective investor or its representatives upon request. During the course of this offering and prior to sale, each prospective L Bond holder is invited to ask questions of and obtain additional information from us concerning the terms and conditions of this offering, our company, the L Bonds and any other relevant matters, including but not limited to additional information necessary or desirable to verify the accuracy of the information set forth in this prospectus. We will provide the information to the extent it possesses such information or can obtain it without unreasonable effort or expense. If there is a material change in the affairs of our company, we will supplement this

prospectus or amend the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

No information contained herein, nor in any prior, contemporaneous or subsequent communication should be construed by a prospective investor as legal or tax advice. Each prospective investor should consult its, his or her own legal, tax and financial advisors to ascertain the merits and risks of the transactions described herein prior to purchasing the L Bonds. This written communication is not intended to be written advice as defined in Circular 230 published by the U.S. Treasury Department.

The L Bonds will be issued under an indenture, as amended or supplemented from time to time (referred to herein collectively as the indenture ). This prospectus is qualified in its entirety by the terms of that indenture filed with SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. All material terms of the indenture are summarized in this prospectus. You may obtain a copy of the indenture upon written request to us or online at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The indenture trustee did not participate in the preparation of this prospectus and makes no representations concerning the L Bonds, the collateral, or any other matter stated in this prospectus. The indenture trustee has no duty or obligation to pay the L Bonds from their funds, assets or capital or to make inquiry regarding, or investigate the use of, amounts disbursed from any account.

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### **INDUSTRY AND MARKET DATA**

The industry and market data used throughout this prospectus have been obtained from our own research, surveys or studies conducted by third parties and industry or general publications. Industry publications and surveys generally state that they have obtained information from sources believed to be reliable, but do not guarantee the accuracy and completeness of such information. We believe that each of these studies and publications is reliable.

### **HOW TO PURCHASE L BONDS**

If, after carefully reading this entire prospectus, obtaining any other information requested and available, and being fully satisfied with the results of pre-investment due-diligence activities, you would like to purchase L Bonds, you will have two different ways in which to consummate a purchase: (1) DTC settlement, and (2) direct settlement with the Company.

1. *Depository Trust Company Settlement (DTC settlement)*. If your broker-dealer is a participant in the DTC system and makes DTC settlement available to you, then you can place an order for the purchase of L Bonds through your broker-dealer. A broker-dealer using this service will have an account with DTC in which your funds will be placed to facilitate the monthly closing cycle. Orders will be executed by your broker-dealer electronically and you must coordinate with your broker-dealer's registered representative to pay the full purchase price for the L Bonds by the final settlement date. Orders may be placed at any time, and the final settlement date will be the date on which your subscription agreement is accepted. You will be credited with ownership of an L Bond on the first business day following the month in which the subscription is made. However, interest will begin to accrue from the final settlement date. Your purchase price for L Bonds purchased in this way will not be held in escrow.

2. *Direct Settlement with the Company*. If you wish to purchase L Bonds through direct settlement with the Company, then you must complete, execute and return the Subscription Agreement to us together with a certified check or personal check payable to the order of GWG Holdings, Inc. Subscription Account (or wire sent to the Subscription Account) equal to the principal amount of L Bonds you wish to purchase. If you are working with a broker-dealer, your subscription materials and the certified check or personal check should be delivered to your broker-dealer, who will deliver it to us at the following address:

**GWG Holdings, Inc.  
220 South Sixth Street, Suite 1200  
Minneapolis, MN 55402**

#### **Wire Instructions**

GWG Holdings, Inc. Subscription Account  
Account: 500023916  
Routing: 091310521

Bank Name: Bell State Bank & Trust

Your purchase is subject to our acceptance. All information provided is confidential and will be disclosed only to our officers, affiliates, managing broker-dealer, legal counsel and, if required, to governmental authorities and self-regulatory organizations or as otherwise required by law. For your purchase to be effective as of the first business day of a calendar month, your completed and executed Subscription Agreement, together with your related funds, must be received by the final settlement date (i.e., the last business day of the prior calendar month).

Upon our receipt of the signed Subscription Agreement and acceptance of your purchase, we will notify you of such acceptance. We may, in our sole discretion, accept or reject any purchase, in whole or in part. In the event we do not accept your purchase of L Bonds for any reason, we will promptly return your payment. We may terminate or suspend this offering at any time, for any reason or no reason, in our sole discretion. You may obtain a copy of the Subscription Agreement from our website at [www.gwglife.com](http://www.gwglife.com), your broker-dealer (if you are working with one), or from us by contacting us at 1-877-494-2388.

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### COVERED SECURITY

Our L Bonds are a covered security. The term covered security applies to securities exempt from state registration pursuant to Section 18 of the Securities Act of 1933. Generally, securities listed on national exchanges are the most common type of covered security exempt from state registration. A non-traded security also can be a covered security if it has a seniority greater than or equal to other securities from the same issuer that are listed on a national exchange. Our L Bonds are a covered security because they will be senior to our common stock, which is listed on The Nasdaq Capital Market.

**Although the status of our L Bonds as a covered security will facilitate their purchase and sale to a broader range of investors than would otherwise be available to us, and although the offer and sale of a covered security generally involves fewer issuance costs to the issuer of such securities, our L Bonds are not a suitable purchase for all investors. Investors are urged to read carefully the risk factors relating to our business and our Company contained in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus beginning on page 19. In addition, investors should understand that because our L Bonds are a covered security exempt from state securities regulations, neither our Company, the L Bonds, or any other aspects of this offering have been the subject of any merit-based review by state securities regulators.**

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### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. To understand this offering fully, you should carefully read the entire prospectus, including the section entitled Risk Factors, before making a decision to invest in our L Bonds. Unless otherwise noted or unless the context otherwise requires, the terms we, us, our, the Company and GWG refers to GWG Holdings, Inc. together with its wholly owned subsidiaries. In instances where we refer emphatically to GWG Holdings or GWG Holdings, Inc., or where we refer to a specific subsidiary of ours by name, we are referring only to that specific legal entity.*

### Our Company

We provide financial services to consumers in the emerging secondary market for life insurance settlements. We target our financial service offerings toward consumers owning life insurance who can benefit from realizing the actuarial value of their life insurance policy. We believe the value proposition of our services to the consumers we serve is very high, and these consumers represent the fastest growing demographic in



the United States according to the U.S. Census Bureau. To address this growing need, we recently have expanded our services by offering consumers a range of options to access the actuarial value of their life insurance, including purchasing (i) all or a portion of their life insurance policy for cash, (ii) all or a portion of their life insurance policy in exchange for a different asset, and (iii) all or a portion of their life insurance policy in an installment sale that provides the selling consumer with a stream of cash flow. All of our services involve our purchase or financing of life insurance assets from consumers in the secondary market at a discount to the face value of the life insurance asset we obtain. In cases where we purchase a life insurance policy, we continue paying the policy premiums until maturity, in order to collect the policy benefit upon the insured's mortality. In this way, we hope to profit from the difference between our cost of obtaining and financing a life insurance asset, and the policy benefit we ultimately receive upon the mortality of the insured.

In addition to our goal of providing consumers with value-added services based upon the actuarial value of their life insurance policies, we seek to build a profitable and large portfolio of life insurance assets that are well diversified in terms of insurance carriers, mortality profiles and the medical conditions of insureds. We believe that successfully diversifying our assets will lower our overall risk exposure and provide our portfolio of life insurance assets with greater actuarial stability and more reliable returns. To obtain the growth and diversification we seek, we have raised capital through a variety of financing efforts that have included the public offering of our common stock, private and public offerings of structured debt securities, private offerings of preferred stock, and the use of a senior secured revolving credit facility. This offering of L Bonds is an extension of that strategy, and presents investors with an opportunity to participate in our business and the opportunity presented by the secondary market for life insurance. We believe that this investment opportunity is unique and attractive in that potential investment returns from life insurance assets are not correlated to general economic or financial market conditions.

According to the American Council of Life Insurers Fact Book 2013 (ACLI), individuals owned over \$11.22 trillion of face value of life insurance policies in the United States in 2012. This figure includes all types of policies, including term and permanent insurance known as whole life, universal life, variable life, and variable universal life. The ACLI reports that the lapse and surrender rate of individual life insurance policies for 2012 was 5.9%, over \$649 billion in face value of policy benefits in 2012 alone. These figures do not include group-owned life insurance, such as employer-provided life insurance, the market for which totaled over \$8.01 trillion of face value of life insurance policies in the United States in 2012, and the policies of which exhibit similar lapse and surrender rates, according to the ACLI. Consumers owning life insurance generally allow policies to lapse or surrender the policies for a variety of reasons, including: (i) the life insurance is no longer needed; (ii) unrealistic original earnings assumptions made when the policy was purchased; (iii) increasing premium payment obligations as the insured ages; (iv) changes in financial status or outlook which cause the insured to no longer require life insurance; (v) other financial needs that make the insurance unaffordable; or (vi) a desire to maximize the policy's investment value.

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The secondary market for life insurance has developed in response to the large volume of policy lapses and surrenders. Rather than allowing a policy to lapse as worthless, or surrendering a life insurance policy at a fraction of its inherent value, the secondary market can be a source of significant value to consumers. The inherent actuarial value of a policy in the life insurance secondary market often exceeds the cash surrender value offered by the insurance carrier. Without the development of the secondary market, insurance carriers would maintain monopsony power over the options offered to consumers who no longer want, need or can afford their life insurance.

Although still relatively new and still emerging, Conning Research & Consulting (Conning) reports that the secondary market for life insurance policies grew from \$2 billion in face value of benefits purchased in 2002, to over \$12 billion in face value of benefits purchased in 2008. During and after the 2009 credit crisis, the secondary market for life insurance contracted significantly, evidenced by Conning's report that investors purchased approximately \$2 billion in face value of life insurance benefits in 2012. Nevertheless, Conning reports that consumer demand for continued development of the secondary market remains strong, and there are indications of strengthening interest among investors. Conning maintains that, given the current economic condition and investor sentiment, the secondary market will likely increase, and the market's largest growth will likely come from companies that attract capital to purchase the assets. We believe that socio-economic and demographic trends further support the long-term development and growth of the secondary market for life insurance, and that the secondary market for life insurance represents a significant and expanding market opportunity. In support of this belief, Conning reports that the net market potential for policies sold in the secondary market exceeded \$109 billion in 2012, and is expected to grow to \$151 billion by 2019.

We believe that we are uniquely positioned to capitalize on this opportunity by providing value-added services to the consumers we serve, and new investment opportunities for investors, where both participants can profit. To participate and compete in our growing market, we have spent and intend to continue to spend significant resources: (i) developing a robust operational platform and systems for originating, purchasing, and servicing life insurance policies; (ii) obtaining requisite licensure to participate in the life insurance secondary market; (iii) developing financing resources, strategies, and capabilities for servicing a large portfolio of life insurance policies; (iv) recruiting and developing a professional

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management team; and (v) establishing strategic relationships for delivering our services.

Since our formation in 2006, we have evaluated over 36,000 policies and acquired over \$1.7 billion in face value of life insurance policy benefits in the secondary market. In 2008, after selling approximately \$1 billion in face value of life insurance policy benefits, we adopted our current buy-and-hold strategy of investing in a portfolio life insurance assets and offering investors the opportunity to finance our ownership of the portfolio. As of September 30, 2014, we owned approximately \$788 million in face value of life insurance policy benefits with an aggregate cost basis (i.e., acquisition and ongoing premiums and financing costs) of approximately \$270 million.

A summary of our portfolio of life insurance assets as of September 30, 2014, is set forth in the table below:

### Life Insurance Portfolio Summary

Total portfolio face value of policy benefits	\$ 787,964,000
Average face value per policy	\$ 2,727,000
Average face value per insured life	\$ 2,996,000
Average age of insured (yrs.) *	82.6
Average life expectancy estimate (yrs.) *	6.69
Total number of policies	289
Number of unique lives	263
Demographics	68% Males; 32% Females
Number of smokers	3 insureds are smokers
Largest policy as % of total portfolio	1.27%
Average policy as % of total portfolio	0.35%
Average Annual Premium as % of face value	3.31%

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All of our services are premised on financial and actuarial modeling that assigns a present value to the face value of an insurance policy benefit. In this regard, the value we assign to a life insurance asset in the secondary market is primarily a function of: (i) the face value of the life insurance policy or portion thereof we may wish to acquire; (ii) the estimated life expectancy of the individual insured under the policy; (iii) the premiums expected to be paid over the life of the insured; (iv) market competition from other purchasers in the secondary market; and (v) the particular underwriting characteristics of the policy, relative to the characteristics of our portfolio of life insurance assets as a whole.

The types of policies for which we provide services are typically, but not always, universal life insurance policies. Universal life insurance is a type of permanent life insurance in which premium payments above the cost of insurance are credited to the cash value of the policy. The cash value is credited each month with interest based on the terms of the insurance policy agreement. If a universal life insurance policy were to lapse, the insured or other owner of the policy would nonetheless have a right to receive the cash surrender value of the policy. The cash surrender value is the cash value of the policy, less any surrender charges imposed by the insurance company for removing the cash value. Our services provide greatest value to a consumer when the actuarial value of the life insurance policy benefit exceeds the cash surrender value of the policy which is often the case. We also provide services to consumers who own term life insurance. Unlike permanent universal life insurance, term life insurance does not have a cash value associated with it. Nevertheless, most term insurance policies permit the policy to be converted into permanent universal life insurance. In the future, we may consider offering services in conjunction with variable universal life insurance, which differs from universal insurance in that the variable component of the policy involves the ownership of securities inside the policy. Regardless of the type of policy, we generally seek to purchase life insurance policies issued by rated life insurance carriers with investment grade credit ratings by Standard & Poor's (AAA through BBB), Moody's (Aaa through Baa3), or A.M. Best Company (aaa through bbb). As of December 31, 2013 and September 30, 2014, over 93.5% and 95.2%, respectively, of life insurance policies within our portfolio were issued by companies rated A- or better under Standard & Poor's rating system.

Before acquiring a life insurance asset, we value the related life insurance policy by conducting an underwriting review. Our present underwriting review process generally involves obtaining two life expectancy estimates on each insured from third-party medical-actuarial

firms, and then averaging these two estimates. On occasion, we may obtain more than two life expectancy estimates, in which case we average the two life expectancy estimates that we believe are the most reliable, based on our own analyses and conclusions. In this regard, the two life expectancy estimates we ultimately choose to average may not always be the most conservative estimates we obtain. From time to time and as permitted by applicable borrowing covenants, we may modify our underwriting review process. For example, in anticipation of our planned marketing efforts, we recently changed our definition of a small face policy from \$250,000 in policy benefits to \$1,000,000 in policy benefits. For small face policies, rather than obtaining life expectancy estimates from third-party medical-actuarial firms, we may employ a modified underwriting review process involving the use of a combination of standard mortality tables, actuarial or medical consultants, and our own analysis to develop a life expectancy estimate for an insured.

We generally transact directly with the policy owner who originally purchased the life insurance in the primary market. Historically, we have purchased policies in the secondary market through a network of life insurance agents, life insurance brokers, and licensed providers who assist policy owners in accessing the secondary market. We expect to expand our origination practice by marketing directly to consumers through various marketing initiatives.

We have built our business with what we believe to be the following competitive strengths:

*Industry Experience:* We have actively participated in the development of the secondary market of life insurance as a principal purchaser and financier within the asset class since 2006. Our position within the marketplace has allowed us to gain a deep understanding of the life insurance secondary market. We have participated in the leadership of various industry associations and forums, including the Life Insurance Settlement Association (LISA) and the Insurance Studies Institute (ISI). Our experience gives

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us confidence in building a company to compete in the industry and acquire a portfolio of life insurance policies that will perform to our expectations.

*Operational Platform:* We have built and continue to refine and develop an operational platform and systems for efficiently tracking, processing, and servicing life insurance policies that we believe provide competitive advantages when participating in the life insurance secondary marketplace.

*Origination and Underwriting Practices:* We seek to use underwriting review processes and file documentation standards that generally meet published guidelines for rated securitizations of life insurance portfolios. We purchase life insurance policies we consider to be non-contestable and that meet our underwriting criteria and reviews. We consider a life insurance policy to be non-contestable once applicable state law prohibits the insurer from challenging the validity of the policy due to fraud. In this regard, state non-contestability laws generally require a period of one to two years to elapse after the initial issuance of the policy before that policy is considered non-contestable under state law. Non-contestability laws do not, however, prevent an insurer from challenging the validity of a policy procured by fraud for lack of an insurable interest at the time at which the policy was purchased, such as is the case with so-called stranger-originated life insurance policies. To the extent we use modified methodologies for estimating life expectancies for small face policies, those modified methodologies may not meet published guidelines for rated securitizations of life insurance portfolios.

*Origination Relationships and Strategies:* We have established origination relationships with life insurance policy brokers and insurance agents who submit policies for our purchase or financing. Our referral base knows our underwriting standards for purchasing life insurance policies in the secondary market, which provides confidence in our bidding and closing processes and streamlines our own due-diligence process. We expect to expand our origination methodology and channels with the proceeds of this offering (e.g., the addition of consumer marketing).

*Life Expectancy Methodology:* We generally rely on two life expectancy estimates obtained from independent third-party medical-actuarial underwriting firms to arrive at a life expectancy estimate we use for valuing a life insurance asset. For a majority of our life insurance asset purchases, we rely on estimates obtained from 21st Services and AVS Underwriting to develop our life expectancy estimate. We may, however, also obtain and use life expectancy estimates from other medical-actuarial underwriting firms. As explained above, we may from time to time modify our underwriting review processes, including our methodology for arriving at life expectancy estimates we use in ascribing value to a life insurance asset.

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*Pricing Software and Methodology:* To calculate our expected returns on the investments we make in life insurance assets, we use actuarial pricing methodologies and software tools built by a leading independent actuarial service firm and currently supported by Modeling Actuarial Pricing Systems, Inc. ( MAPS ).

*Financing Strategy:* We have actively developed diversified financing strategy for accessing capital markets in support of our buy-and-hold strategy for our portfolio of life insurance policies, ranging from institutional bank financing to a network of broker-dealers registered with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ( FINRA ), many of whom have participated in one or more of our Series I Secured note financing, our Series A preferred stock financing, or our earlier L Bond financing (such L Bonds originally issued under the name Renewable Secured Debentures and to be renamed L Bonds upon the effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part) (referred to in this prospectus as the previously issued L Bonds or the Renewable Secured Debentures ). If in the future we determine to offer different kinds of investment products, we expect to leverage the network of broker-dealers that we have built over time.

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On the other hand, our business involves a number of challenges and risks described in more detail elsewhere in this prospectus, including the following:

*Relatively New Market:* Investing in life insurance assets in the secondary market is a relatively new and evolving market. Our ability to source and invest in life insurance assets at attractive prices materially depends on the continued growth of the secondary market for life insurance and the continued solvency of the life insurance companies that pay the face value of life insurance policy benefits.

*Asset Valuation Assumptions:* The valuation of our portfolio life insurance assets the principal asset on our balance sheet requires us to make material assumptions that may ultimately prove to be incorrect. These assumptions include appropriate discount rates, cash flow projections, and the life expectancy estimates we use for these purposes, any of which may ultimately prove to be inaccurate.

*Ability to Expand Our Portfolio:* Our business model requires us to achieve actual results that are in line with those we expect to attain from our investments in life insurance assets. In this regard, we believe that the larger the portfolio of life insurance assets we own, the greater likelihood there is that we will achieve results matching our expectations. Although we plan to expand the number of investments in life insurance assets using proceeds from the sale of our L Bonds, we may be unable to meet this goal. Furthermore, even if we successfully grow our portfolio of life insurance assets, we nevertheless may not achieve the results we expect.

*Reliance on Financing:* We have chosen to finance our business almost entirely through the issuance of debt, including the sale of L Bonds, previously issued L Bonds, Series I Secured notes, and our use of a senior secured revolving credit facility. Our business model expects that we will have continued access to financing (including financing to expand or replace our existing financing) in order to purchase and finance a large and diversified portfolio of life insurance assets, and thereafter pay the attendant premiums and financing costs of maintaining that portfolio. We will be required to rely on our access to financing to pay premiums and interest until such time as we experience a significant amount of mortality within our portfolio and begin receiving significant revenues from the receipt of life insurance policy benefits. Even if we obtain the financing we require, we may not receive life insurance policy benefits that match our cash flow projections or meet them in time to earn profits after the payment of financing costs.

*Risk of Investment in Life Insurance Assets:* Our investments in life insurance assets have inherent risks, including fraud and legal challenges to the validity of the life insurance policies. Examples of fraud include the possibility that the seller of a policy may have provided us with inaccurate or misleading information during the underwriting review process.

*Effects of Regulation:* Our business is subject to complex state and federal regulation. Changes in state or federal laws and regulations governing our business, or changes in the interpretation of such laws and regulations, could materially and negatively affect our business.

Our business also involves certain other challenges and risks described in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus.

### **Implications of Being an Emerging Growth Company**

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As a public reporting company with less than \$1 billion in revenue during our last fiscal year, we qualify as an emerging growth company under the Jumpstart our Business Startups Act of 2012, or the JOBS Act. An emerging growth company may take advantage of certain reduced reporting requirements and is relieved of certain other significant requirements that are otherwise generally applicable to public companies. In particular, as an emerging growth company we:

are not required to obtain an attestation and report from our auditors on our management's assessment of our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002;

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are not required to provide a detailed narrative disclosure discussing our compensation principles, objectives and elements and analyzing how those elements fit with our principles and objectives (commonly referred to as compensation discussion and analysis);

are not required to obtain a non-binding advisory vote from our stockholders on executive compensation or golden parachute arrangements (commonly referred to as the say-on-pay, say-on-frequency and say-on-golden-parachute votes);

are exempt from certain executive compensation disclosure provisions requiring a pay-for-performance graph and CEO pay ratio disclosure;

may present only two years of audited financial statements and only two years of related Management's Discussion & Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, or MD&A; and

are eligible to claim longer phase-in periods for the adoption of new or revised financial accounting standards under §107 of the JOBS Act.

We intend to take advantage of all of these reduced reporting requirements and exemptions, including the longer phase-in periods for the adoption of new or revised financial accounting standards under §107 of the JOBS Act. Our election to use the phase-in periods may make it difficult to compare our financial statements to those of non-emerging growth companies and other emerging growth companies that have opted out of the phase-in periods under §107 of the JOBS Act. Please see Risk Factors, page 32 (*We are an 'emerging growth company' . . . .*).

Certain of these reduced reporting requirements and exemptions were already available to us due to the fact that we also qualify as a smaller reporting company under SEC rules. For instance, smaller reporting companies are not required to obtain an auditor attestation and report regarding management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting; are not required to provide a compensation discussion and analysis; are not required to provide a pay-for-performance graph or CEO pay ratio disclosure; and may present only two years of audited financial statements and related MD&A disclosure.

Under the JOBS Act, we may take advantage of the above-described reduced reporting requirements and exemptions for up to five years after our initial sale of common equity pursuant to a registration statement declared effective under the Securities Act of 1933, or such earlier time that we no longer meet the definition of an emerging growth company. In this regard, the JOBS Act provides that we would cease to be an emerging growth company if we have more than \$1 billion in annual revenues, have more than \$700 million in market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates, or issue more than \$1 billion in principal amount of non-convertible debt over a three-year period. Furthermore, under current SEC rules we will continue to qualify as a smaller reporting company for so long as we have a public float (i.e., the market value of common equity held by non-affiliates) of less than \$75 million as of the last business day of our most recently completed second fiscal quarter.

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**Corporate Organization**

Our business was organized in February 2006. As a parent holding company, GWG Holdings was incorporated on March 19, 2008 as a limited liability company. On June 10, 2011, GWG Holdings converted from a Delaware limited liability company to a Delaware corporation through the filing of statutory articles of conversion. In connection with the conversion, each class of limited liability company membership interests in GWG Holdings, LLC was converted into shares of common stock of GWG Holdings, Inc. Our corporate structure, including our principal subsidiaries, is as follows:

GWG Life, LLC (a Delaware limited liability company formerly known as GWG Life Settlements, LLC), is a licensed life/viatical settlement provider and the guarantor of the obligations of GWG Holdings under our previously issued L Bonds. GWG DLP Funding II, LLC (a Delaware limited liability company), or DLP Funding II, is a wholly owned special-purpose subsidiary owning life insurance policies and is the borrower under our revolving line of credit from Autobahn/DZ Bank. The life insurance assets owned by DLP Funding II are held in the GWG DLP Master Trust II (a Delaware statutory trust). The trust exists solely to hold the collateral security (i.e., life insurance policies) granted to Autobahn/DZ Bank under our revolving line of credit. DLP Funding II is the beneficiary under that trust.

On June 24, 2014, we effected a 1-for-2 share combination (reverse stock split) of our issued and outstanding common stock. Unless otherwise expressly indicated herein, all common share figures contained in this prospectus have been adjusted to reflect the effectiveness of this share combination.

On September 24, 2014, we consummated an initial public offering of our common stock that involved the listing of our common stock on The Nasdaq Capital Market effective September 25, 2014.

Our principal executive offices are located at 220 South Sixth Street, Suite 1200, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 and our telephone number is (612) 746-1944. Our website address is [www.gwglife.com](http://www.gwglife.com). The information on or accessible through our website is not part of this prospectus.

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**The Offering**

<b>Issuer</b>	GWG Holdings, Inc.
<b>Indenture Trustee</b>	Bank of Utah
<b>Paying Agent</b>	GWG Holdings, Inc.
<b>Securities Offered</b>	We are offering up to \$1,000,000,000 in principal amount of our L Bonds. The L Bonds are being sold on a continuous basis.
<b>Method of Purchase</b>	We will sell L Bonds using two different closing or settlement services, whenever available. The first service is DTC settlement, and the second is direct settlement with the Company. For more information, see Plan of Distribution.
<b>Denomination</b>	The minimum purchase of L Bonds is \$25,000 in principal amount. Additional L Bonds in excess of \$25,000 may be purchased in increments of

\$1,000.

<b>Offering Price</b>	100% of the principal of the L Bond.
<b>Limited Rescission Right</b>	If you are purchasing L Bonds through direct settlement with the Company and your Subscription Agreement is accepted at a time when we have determined that a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part must be filed with the SEC, but such post-effective amendment has not yet been declared effective, you will have a limited time within which to rescind your investment subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus. See <a href="#">Description of the L Bonds Limited Rescission Right</a> for additional information.
<b>Maturity</b>	You may generally choose maturities for your L Bonds of six months or 1, 2, 3, 5, or 7 years. Nevertheless, depending on our capital requirements, we may not offer and sell L Bonds of all maturities at all times during this offering.
<b>Interest Rates</b>	The interest rate of the L Bonds will be established at the time of your purchase, or at the time of renewal, based upon the rates we are offering in this prospectus or our latest interest rate supplement to this prospectus (i.e., any prospectus supplement containing interest rate information for L Bonds of different maturities), and will remain fixed throughout the term of the L Bond. We may offer higher rates of interest to investors with larger aggregate L Bond portfolios, but only as set forth in the then-current interest rate supplement.
<b>Interest Payments</b>	We will pay interest on the L Bonds based on the terms you choose, which may be monthly or annually. Interest will accrue from the effective date of the L Bond. Interest payments will generally be made on the 15th day immediately following the last day of the month to the

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<b>Principal Payments</b>	L Bond holder of record as of the last day of that interest-payment period. Interest will be paid without any compounding.
<b>Principal Payments</b>	The maturity date for the L Bonds will be the last day of the month during which the L Bond matures. We are obligated to pay the principal on the L Bond by the fifth day of the month next following its maturity (or the first business day following such date).
<b>Payment Method</b>	Principal and interest payments will be made by direct deposit to the account you designate in your Subscription Agreement if you purchase L Bonds through direct settlement with the Company. If you purchase L Bonds through DTC settlement, principal and interest payments will be made to your brokerage or custodial account through DTC.
<b>Renewal or Redemption at Maturity</b>	Upon maturity, the L Bonds will be automatically renewed for the same term at the interest rate we are offering at that time to other investors with similar aggregate L Bond portfolios for L Bonds of the same maturity, unless repaid upon maturity at our or your election. In this regard, we will notify you at

least 30 days prior to the maturity date of your L Bonds. In the notice, we will advise you if we intend to repay the L Bonds or else remind you that your L Bonds will be automatically renewed unless you exercise your option, at least 15 days prior to the maturity date, to elect to have your L Bonds repaid. If applicable, a new certificate will be issued.

If we determine that a post-effective amendment to the registration statement covering the offer and sale of L Bonds must be filed during your 15-day repayment election period, we will extend your election period until ten days following the postmark date of our notice to you that the amendment has become effective.

For any L Bonds offered hereby that mature after the three-year anniversary of the commencement of this offering, we expect that the renewal of such L Bonds may require us to file a new registration statement. In such a case, the new registration statement must be declared effective before we will be able to renew your L Bond. In this event, if the new registration statement has not yet been filed or become effective, we will extend your election period until ten days following the date of our notice to you that the new registration statement has become effective, which notice will include a new prospectus.

If L Bonds with similar terms are not being offered at the time of renewal, (i) the interest rate upon renewal will be

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(a) the rate specified by us in writing on or before the maturity date or (b) if no such rate is specified, the rate of your existing L Bonds, and (ii) the maturity will, if L Bonds of the same maturity are being offered at the time of renewal, be the same or, if not, the next earliest maturity. Accordingly, you should understand that the interest rate offered upon renewal may differ from the interest rate applicable to your L Bonds prior to maturity. See Description of the L Bonds Renewal or Redemption on Maturity.

## **Call and Redemption Prior to**

### **Maturity**

We may call and redeem the entire outstanding principal balance and accrued but unpaid interest of any or all of the L Bonds at any time without penalty or premium. L Bond holders will have no right to require us to redeem any L Bond prior to maturity unless the request is due to death, bankruptcy or total disability. In our sole discretion, we may accommodate other requests to redeem any L Bond prior to maturity. If we agree to redeem an L Bond upon the request of an L Bond holder, we will impose a redemption fee of 6% against the outstanding principal balance of the L Bond redeemed, which fee will be subtracted from the amount paid.

### **Ranking**

The L Bonds will constitute secured debt of GWG Holdings. The payment of principal and interest on the L Bonds will be:

pari passu with respect to payment on and collateral securing the approximately \$28.2 million in outstanding principal amount of Series I Secured notes previously issued by our subsidiary GWG Life, and the previously issued L Bonds, of which approximately \$173.2 million in principal amount is outstanding as of September 30, 2014 (see the caption



Collateral Security (below);

structurally junior to the present and future obligations owed by our subsidiary DLP Funding II under our current revolving credit facility with Autobahn/DZ Bank (including the approximately \$79 million presently outstanding under such facility), and structurally or contractually junior to any future obligations that DLP Funding II or other primary obligors or guarantors may have under future senior secured borrowing facilities; and

structurally junior to the present and future claims of other creditors of DLP Funding II, including trade creditors.

The indenture will permit us to issue other forms of debt, including senior and secured debt, in the future. Any such secured senior debt will have priority over L Bonds with respect to claims for payment and claims for any

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collateral that is shared as between the holders of L Bonds and such senior secured debt.

To fully understand the foregoing summary, you should understand that *pari passu* means that claims for payment and entitlement to security among the holders of L Bonds, the holders of previously issued L Bonds, and the holders of Series I Secured notes previously issued by GWG Life, together with the holders of any later-created class of *pari passu* debt of ours, will generally be treated equally and without preference. We expect to continue our offering of Series I Secured notes and previously issued L Bonds for purposes of processing renewals only, and any such debt issued on a *pari passu* basis in the future would also be treated equally and without preference in respect of the L Bonds and any secured debt issued by GWG Life. Thus, in the event of any default on the L Bonds (or any other debt securities of ours that is *pari passu* with the L Bonds) resulting in claims for payment or claims on collateral security, the holders of the L Bonds and all such other debt securities that are *pari passu* with the L Bonds would share in payment or collateral in proportion to the amount of principal and interest owed on each such debt instrument. See *Description of the L Bonds Ranking* for further information.

**Guarantee**

The payment of principal and interest on the L Bonds is fully and unconditionally guaranteed by GWG Life. This guarantee, together with the accompanying grant of a security interest in all of the assets of GWG Life and the terms and conditions of an intercreditor agreement, makes the L Bonds *pari passu*, with respect to payment and collateral, with the Series I Secured notes issued by GWG Life and the previously issued L Bonds issued by GWG Holdings. On September 30, 2014, there was approximately \$28.2 million in outstanding principal amount owed on the Series I Secured notes and approximately \$173.2 million in outstanding principal amount of previously issued L Bonds.

**Collateral Security**

The L Bonds are secured by the assets of GWG Holdings, Inc. We have granted a security interest in all of our assets to the indenture trustee for the

benefit of the L Bond holders. Our assets consist primarily of our investments in our subsidiaries and any cash proceeds we receive from life insurance assets of our subsidiaries, and all other cash and investments we hold in various accounts.

The majority of our life insurance assets are held in our subsidiary DLP Funding II, LLC and its associated master trust. The L Bonds' security interest will be structurally subordinate to the security interest in favor

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of our senior secured lender under the revolving credit facility, together with any future senior secured lenders of ours. The assets of GWG Life, including proceeds it receives as distributions from DLP Funding II and derived from the insurance policies owned by DLP Funding II, are collateral for GWG Life's guarantee of the repayment of principal and interest on the L Bonds. As indicated above under Collateral, this security interest will be pari passu to other issued and outstanding debt of GWG Life and GWG Holdings, including our Series I Secured notes and previously issued L Bonds, respectively. The L Bonds are also secured by a pledge of a majority of our outstanding common stock from our largest stockholders, which pledge is pari passu with the pledge of such common stock to the holders of Series I Secured notes issued by GWG Life and to the holders of previously issued L Bonds. For a description of the meaning of the term pari passu, please refer to the caption Ranking above.

## **Indenture Covenants**

The indenture governing the L Bonds places restrictive covenants and affirmative obligations on us. For example, our debt coverage ratio may not exceed 90%.

The indenture defines the debt coverage ratio as a percentage calculated by the ratio of (A) obligations owing by us and our subsidiaries on all outstanding debt for borrowed money (including the L Bonds), over (B) the net present asset value of all life insurance assets we own, directly or indirectly, plus any cash held in our accounts. For this purpose, the net present asset value of our life insurance assets is equal to the present value of the cash flows derived from the face value of policy benefit assets we own, discounted at a rate equal to the weighted-average cost of capital for all our indebtedness for the prior month.

We are required to notify the indenture trustee in the event that we violate this restrictive covenant for a period of 30 consecutive days. An event of default will exist under the indenture if a violation of this covenant persists for a period of 60 calendar days after the trustee's notice to us of a breach, or such a notice received from the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of outstanding L Bonds.

The indenture also places limitations on our ability to engage in a merger or sale of all of our assets. See Description of the Indentures' Events of Default and Consolidation Mergers or Sales for more information.

## **Use of Proceeds**

If all the L Bonds are sold, we would expect to receive up to approximately \$918.5 million of net proceeds from this offering after paying estimated

offering and related expenses and after paying our estimated average

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selling commissions, dealer-manager fees, accountable expense allowance, wholesale commissions and our offering expenses. There is no minimum amount of L Bonds that must be sold before we access investor funds. The exact amount of proceeds we receive may vary considerably depending on a variety of factors, including how long the L Bonds are offered.

We intend to use a substantial majority of the net proceeds from this offering to invest in life insurance policies assets. We intend to use the remaining balance of the net proceeds from this offering for certain other expenditures we anticipate incurring in connection with this offering and in connection with our business. See [Use of Proceeds](#) for additional information.

**No Market for L Bonds;**

**Transferability**

There is no existing market for the L Bonds and we do not anticipate that a secondary market for the L Bonds will develop. We do not intend to apply for listing of the L Bonds on any securities exchange or for quotation of the L Bonds in any automated dealer quotation system. Nevertheless, you will be able to freely transfer or pledge L Bonds. See [Description of the L Bonds](#) [Transfers](#).

**Book Entry**

The L Bonds may be issued in book-entry form, certificated form, or in the form of a global certificate deposited with a depository. See [Description of the L Bonds](#) [Registration and Exchange](#).

**Covered Security**

Our L Bonds are a covered security. The term covered security applies to securities exempt from state registration because of their oversight by federal authorities and national-level regulatory bodies pursuant to Section 18 of the Securities Act of 1933. Generally, securities listed on national exchanges are the most common type of covered security exempt from state registration. A non-traded security also can be a covered security if it has a seniority greater than or equal to other securities from the same issuer that are listed on a national exchange. Our L Bonds are a covered security because they are senior to our common stock, which is listed on The Nasdaq Capital Market, and therefore our offering of L Bonds is exempt from state registration.

**Although the status of our L Bonds as a covered security will facilitate their purchase and sale to a broader range of investors than would otherwise be available to us, and although the offer and sale of a covered security generally involves fewer issuance costs to the issuer of such securities, our L Bonds are not a suitable purchase for all investors. In this regard, please carefully review the Risk Factors contained in this prospectus, as well as the disclosures on page 3 under the heading Covered Security.**

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**Risk Factors**

An investment in the L Bonds involves significant risks, including the risk of losing your entire investment, and may be considered speculative. Importantly, we maintain a senior borrowing arrangement that subordinates the right to payment on, and shared collateral securing, the L Bonds to our senior secured lender. From time to time we may add or replace senior lenders and the particular arrangements under which we borrow from them. In addition, these borrowing arrangements with senior lenders restrict, and are expected to continue to restrict, our cash flows and, subject to certain exceptions, distributions from our operating subsidiaries. These provisions will restrict cash flows available for payment of principal and interest on the L Bonds. For a summary of risks relating to this offering and our Company and business, please see Risk Factors, page 19.

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**RISK RELATING TO FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain matters discussed in this prospectus contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions about our operations and the investments we make, including, among other things, factors discussed under the heading Risk Factors in this prospectus and the following:

- changes in the secondary market for life insurance;
- our limited operating history;
- the valuation of assets reflected on our financial statements;
- the reliability of assumptions underlying our actuarial models;
- the reliability of assumptions underlying our life expectancy estimates;
- our reliance on debt financing;
- risks relating to the validity and enforceability of the life insurance policies we purchase;
- our reliance on information provided and obtained by third parties;
- federal and state regulatory matters;
- additional expenses, not reflected in our operating history, related to being a public reporting company;
- competition in the secondary life insurance market;
- the relative illiquidity of life insurance policies;
- life insurance company credit exposure;

economic outlook;

performance of our investments in life insurance policies;

financing requirements;

litigation risks; and

restrictive covenants contained in borrowing agreements.

Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of words like believes, could, possibly, probably, anticipates, estimates, project, expects, may, will, should, seek, intend, plan, expect, or consider or the negative of these expressions or other variations, or by a strategy that involve risks and uncertainties. All forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual transactions, results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future transactions, results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. We base these forward-looking statements on current expectations and projections about future events and the information currently available to us. Although we believe that the assumptions for these forward-looking statements are reasonable, any of the assumptions could prove to be inaccurate. Consequently, no representation or warranty can be given that the estimates, opinions, or assumptions made in or referenced by this prospectus will prove to be accurate. Some of the risks, uncertainties and assumptions are identified in the discussion entitled Risk Factors in this prospectus. We caution you that the forward-looking statements in this prospectus are only estimates and predictions, or statements of current intent. Actual results or outcomes, or actions that we ultimately undertake, could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements due to risks, uncertainties or actual events differing from the assumptions underlying these statements. These risks, uncertainties and assumptions include, but are not limited to, those discussed in this prospectus.

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### **RISK FACTORS**

*An investment in the L Bonds involves a high degree of risk. Before purchasing L Bonds, you should carefully consider the following risk factors in conjunction with the other information contained in this prospectus. The risks discussed in this prospectus can materially harm our operations, operating results, financial condition or future results. If any of these risks materialize or occur, the value of our L Bonds could decline and could cause you to lose part or all of your investment. You should review the risks of this investment with your legal and financial advisors prior to purchasing L Bonds.*

#### **Risks Related to Our Company and Our Industry**

*Material changes in the life insurance secondary market, a relatively new and evolving market, may adversely affect our operating results, business prospects and our ability to repay our obligations under the L Bonds.*

Our sole business is currently the purchase and ownership of life insurance policies acquired in the secondary market, which is a relatively new and evolving market. The success of our business and our ability to repay the principal and interest on our obligations, including our L Bonds, depends in large part on the continued development of the secondary market for life insurance, including the solvency of life insurance companies to pay the face value of the life insurance benefits, both of which will critically impact the performance of the life insurance assets we own. We expect that the development of the secondary market will primarily be impacted by a variety of factors such as the interpretation of existing laws and regulations (including laws relating to insurable interests), the passage of new legislation and regulations, mortality improvement rates, and actuarial understandings and methodologies. Importantly, all of the factors that we believe will most significantly affect the development of the life insurance secondary market are beyond our control. Any material and adverse development in the life insurance secondary market could adversely affect our operating results, our access to capital, our ability to repay our various obligations, including our L Bonds, and our business prospects and viability. Because of this, an investment in the L Bonds generally involves greater risk as compared to investments offered by companies with more diversified business operations in more established markets.

*We have a relatively limited history of operations and our earnings and cash flows may be volatile, resulting in future losses and uncertainty about our ability to service and repay our debt when and as it comes due.*

We are a company with a limited history, which makes it difficult to accurately forecast our earnings and cash flows. During the year ended December 31, 2013, we incurred a net loss of \$195,000, and for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, we incurred a net loss of \$7,888,058. Our lack of a significant history and the evolving nature of our market make it likely that there are risks inherent in our business that are yet to be recognized by us or others, or not fully appreciated, and that could result in us earning less than we anticipate or even suffering further losses. As a result of the foregoing, an investment in the L Bonds necessarily involves uncertainty about the stability of our earnings, cash flows and, ultimately, our ability to service and repay our debt. Accordingly, there is a risk that you could lose your entire investment.

*The valuation of our principal assets on our balance sheet requires us to make material assumptions that may ultimately prove to be incorrect. In such an event, we could suffer significant losses that could materially and adversely affect our results of operations and eventually cause us to be in default of restrictive covenants contained in our borrowing agreements.*

Our principal asset is a portfolio of life insurance policies purchased in the secondary market, comprising approximately 85% of our total assets at December 31, 2013 and 89% of our total assets at September 30, 2014. Those assets are considered Level 3 fair value measurements under ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, as there is currently no active market where we are able to observe quoted prices for identical assets. As a result, our valuation of those assets incorporates significant inputs that are not observable. Fair value is defined as an exit price representing the amount that would be received if assets

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were sold or that would be paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability.

A Level 3 fair value measurement is inherently uncertain and creates additional volatility in our financial statements that are not necessarily related to the performance of the underlying assets. As of December 31, 2013 and September 30, 2014, we estimated the fair value discount rate for our portfolio to be 11.69% and 11.56%, respectively. If in the future we determine that a higher discount rate is required to ascribe fair value to a similarly situated portfolio of life insurance policies, we could experience significant losses materially affecting our results of operations. It is also possible that significant losses of this nature could at some point cause us to fall out of compliance with certain borrowing covenants contained in our various borrowing agreements. This could result in acceleration of our loan balances under the revolving credit facility or our Series I Secured notes and the L Bonds, which we may not be able to repay. We may be forced to seek additional debt or equity financing to repay such debt amounts, which may not be available on terms acceptable to us, if at all. If we are unable to repay when debt comes due, then our senior lender or the holders of our Series I Secured notes and the L Bonds, or both, would have the right to foreclose on our assets.

In an effort to present operating results not subject to the valuation volatility associated with the discount rate we choose, we intend to provide additional non-GAAP financial disclosures, on a consistent basis, presenting the actuarial economic gain we expect within our portfolio of life insurance policies at the expected internal rate of return against the costs we incur over the same period. We report these very same non-GAAP financial measures to the lender under our revolving credit facility pursuant to financial covenants in the related borrowing documents. Nevertheless, our reported GAAP earnings may in the future be volatile for reasons that do not bear an immediate relationship to the cash flows we experience.

For further disclosure relating to the risks associated with the valuation of our assets, see the risk factor below *If actuarial assumptions we obtain from third-party providers . . . .* on page 24.

*Our expected results from our life insurance portfolio will not match actual results, which could adversely affect our ability to service and grow our portfolio for diversification.*

Our business model relies on achieving actual results that are in line with the results we expect to attain from our investments in life insurance assets. In this regard, we believe that the larger portfolio we own, the greater the likelihood that we will achieve our expected results. To our knowledge, rating agencies generally suggest that portfolios of life insurance policies be diversified enough to achieve actuarial stability in receiving expected cash flows from underlying mortality. For instance, in a study published in 2012, A.M. Best concluded that at least 300 lives are necessary to narrow the band of cash flow volatility and achieve actuarial stability, while Standard & Poor's has indicated that stability is

unlikely to be achieved with a pool of less than 1,000 lives. As of December 31, 2013, we owned \$741 million in face value of life insurance policies covering 239 lives. As of September 30, 2014, we owned approximately \$788 million in face value of life insurance policies covering 263 lives. Accordingly, while there is risk with a portfolio of any size that our actual yield may be less than expected, we believe that the risk we face is presently more significant given the relative lack of diversification in our current portfolio as compared to rating agency recommendations.

Although we plan to expand the number of life insurance policies we own using proceeds raised from our offering of the L Bonds, we may be unable to meet this goal if sufficient financing from capital sources is not available or is available only on unfavorable or unacceptable terms. Furthermore, even if our portfolio reaches the size we desire, we still may experience material differences between the actuarial models we use and actual mortalities.

Differences between our expectations and actuarial models (which include life expectancy estimates) on the one hand, and actual mortality results on the other hand, could have a materially adverse effect on our operating results and cash flow. In such a case, we may face liquidity problems, including difficulties servicing our remaining portfolio of policies and servicing our outstanding debt obligations. Continued or material failures to meet our expected results could decrease the attractiveness of our securities in the eyes of

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potential investors, making it even more difficult to obtain capital needed to service our portfolio, grow the portfolio to obtain desired diversification, and service our existing debt.

***We critically rely on debt financing for our business. Any inability to borrow could adversely affect our business operations, our ability to satisfy our obligations under the L Bonds, and ultimately our viability.***

To date, we have chosen to finance our business principally through the issuance of debt, including debt incurred by DLP Funding II under a senior revolving credit facility provided by Autobahn/DZ Bank (which we refer to throughout this prospectus as our revolving credit facility), our Series I Secured notes and the L Bonds. Our revolving credit facility is secured by all of the assets of DLP Funding II, has a maximum amount of \$100 million, and the outstanding balance at both December 31, 2013 and September 30, 2014 was approximately \$79 million. Obligations under the revolving credit facility have a scheduled maturity date of December 31, 2016, and obligations under our Series I Secured notes and the L Bonds have scheduled maturities as indicated below in the risk factor *If a significant number of holders . . .*, on page 29. Our debt arrangements comprise the most important sources of financing on which our business critically relies to grow our portfolio of life insurance policies and maintain those policies.

Our business model expects that we will have continued access to financing in order to purchase and finance a large and diversified portfolio of life insurance policies and pay the attendant premiums and costs of maintaining the portfolio, all while satisfying our current interest and principal repayment obligations under our revolving credit facility and other indebtedness. We expect to refinance our revolving credit facility, either through renewal or replacement, when it comes due on December 31, 2016. Pending the due date or refinancing of our revolving credit facility, we expect that proceeds from our life insurance policies will first be used to satisfy our obligations under that facility, as required by the agreement governing the revolving credit facility. Accordingly, until we achieve cash flows derived from our portfolio of life insurance policies, we expect to rely primarily on the proceeds from this offering of L Bonds to satisfy our ongoing financing and liquidity needs. Nevertheless, continued access to financing and liquidity is not guaranteed. For example, general economic conditions could limit our access to financing, as could regulatory or legal pressures exerted on us, our financiers or those involved in our general plan of financing such as brokers, dealers and registered investment advisors. If we are unable to borrow under the revolving credit facility or otherwise for any reason, or to renew or replace the revolving credit facility when it comes due in December 2016, our business would be adversely impacted and our ability to service and repay our obligations would be compromised.

***Our investments in life insurance policies have inherent risks, including fraud and legal challenges to the validity of the policies, which we will be unable to eliminate and which may adversely affect our results of operations.***

When we purchase a life insurance policy, we underwrite the purchase of the policy to mitigate certain risks associated with insurance fraud and other legal challenges to the validity of the life insurance policy. For example, to the extent that the insured is not aware of the existence of the policy, the insured him or herself does not exist, or the insurance company does not recognize the policy, the insurance company may cancel or rescind the policy thereby causing the loss of an investment in that policy. In addition, if medical records have been altered in such a way as to shorten a life expectancy report, this may cause us to overpay for the related policy. Finally, we may experience legal challenges from insurance

companies claiming that the insured failed to have an insurable interest at the time the policy was originally purchased or that the policy owner made fraudulent disclosures to the insurer at the time the policy was purchased (e.g., disclosures pertaining to the health status of the insured or the existence or sources of premium financing), or challenges from the beneficiaries of an insurance policy claiming, upon mortality of the insured that the sale of the policy to us was invalid.

To mitigate these risks, we require a current verification of coverage from the insurance company, complete a due-diligence investigation of the insured and accompanying medical records, review the life insurance policy application, require a policy to have been in force for at least two years before purchasing, and require a legal review of any premium financing associated with the life insurance policy to determine whether an insurable interest existed at the time the policy was originally purchased in the primary market.

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Nevertheless, we do not expect that these steps will eliminate the risk of fraud or legal challenges to the life insurance policies we purchase. Furthermore, changes in laws or regulations, or the interpretation of existing laws or regulations, may prove our current due-diligence and risk-mitigation efforts inadequate for us to have confidence that our portfolio of life insurance policies are unlikely to be successfully challenged or to purchase new policies with such confidence. If a significant face amount of policies were invalidated for reasons of fraud or any other reason, our results of operations would be adversely affected, perhaps materially.

***Every acquisition of a life insurance policy necessarily requires us to materially rely on information provided or obtained by third parties. Any misinformation or negligence in the course of obtaining information could materially and adversely affect the value of the policies we own.***

The acquisition of each life insurance policy is negotiated based on variables and particular facts that are unique to the life insurance policy itself and the health of the insured. The facts we obtain about the policies and the insured at the time at which the policy is applied for and obtained are based on factual representations made to the insurance company by the insured, and the facts the insurance company independently obtains in the course of its own due-diligence examination, such as facts concerning the health of the insured and whether or not there is an insurable interest present when the policy was issued. Any misinformation or negligence in the course of obtaining or supplying information relating to an insurance policy or insured could materially and adversely impact the value of the life insurance policies we own and could, in turn, adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, and the value of any investment in our company.

***Our business is subject to state regulation, and changes in state laws and regulations governing our business, or changes in the interpretation of such laws and regulations, could negatively affect our business.***

When we purchase a life insurance policy, we are subject to state insurance regulations. Over the past years, we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of states that have adopted legislation and regulations from a model law promulgated by either the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) or by the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL). These laws are essentially consumer protection statutes responding to abuses that arose early in the development of our industry, some of which may persist. Today, almost every state has adopted some version of either the NAIC or NCOIL model laws, which generally require the licensing of purchasers of and brokers for life insurance policies, the filing and approval of purchase agreements, and the disclosure of transaction fees. These laws also require various periodic reporting requirements and prohibit certain business practices deemed to be abusive.

State statutes typically provide state regulatory agencies with significant powers to interpret, administer and enforce the laws relating to the purchase of life insurance policies. Under statutory authority, state regulators have broad discretionary power and may impose new licensing requirements, interpret or enforce existing regulatory requirements in different ways or issue new administrative rules, even if not contained in state statutes. State regulators may also impose rules that are generally adverse to our industry. Because the life insurance secondary market is relatively new and because of the history of certain abuses in the industry, we believe it is likely that state regulation will increase and grow more complex during the foreseeable future. We cannot, however, predict what any new regulation would specifically involve.

Any adverse change in present laws or regulations, or their interpretation, in one or more states in which we operate (or an aggregation of states in which we conduct a significant amount of business) could result in our curtailment or termination of operations in such jurisdictions, or cause us to modify our operations in a way that adversely affects our profitability. Any such action could have a corresponding material and negative impact on our results of operations and financial condition, primarily through a material decrease in revenues, and could also negatively affect our general business prospects.



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*If federal or state regulators or courts conclude that the purchase of life insurance in the secondary market constitutes, in all cases, a transaction in securities, we could be in violation of existing covenants under our revolving credit facility, which could result in significantly diminished access to capital. We could also face increased operational expenses. The materialization of any of these risks could adversely affect our operating results and possibly threaten the viability of our business.*

Some states and the SEC have, on occasion, attempted to regulate the purchase of non-variable universal life insurance policies as transactions in securities under federal or state securities laws. In July 2010, the SEC issued a Staff Report of its Life Settlement Task Force. In that report, the Staff recommended that certain types of purchased life insurance policies be classified as securities. The SEC has not taken any position on the Staff Report, and there is no indication if the SEC will take or advocate for any action to implement the recommendations of the Staff Report. In addition, there have been several federal court cases in which transactions involving the purchase and fractionalization of life insurance contracts have been held to be transactions in securities under the federal Securities Act of 1933. We believe that the matters discussed in the Staff Report, and existing case law, do not presently impact our current business model since our purchases of life settlements are currently distinguishable from those cases that have been held by courts, and advocated by the Staff Report, to be transactions in securities. For example, presently neither we nor any of our affiliates are involved in the fractionalization of any life insurance policies, and we do not presently purchase variable life insurance policies.

With respect to state securities laws, almost all states currently treat the sale of a life insurance policy as a securities transaction under state laws, although some states exclude from the definition of security the original sale from the insured or the policy owner to the life settlement provider. To date, due to the manner in which we conduct and structure our activities and the availability, in certain instances, of exceptions and exemptions under those state laws, such laws have not adversely impacted our business model.

As a practical matter, the widespread application of federal securities laws to our purchases of life insurance policies, either through the expansion of the definition of what constitutes a security, the expansion of the types of transactions in life insurance policies that would constitute transactions in securities, or the elimination or limitation of available exemptions and exceptions (whether by statutory change, regulatory change, or administrative or court interpretation) could burden us and other companies operating in the life insurance secondary market through the imposition of additional processes in the purchase of life insurance policies or the imposition of additional corporate governance and operational requirements through the application of the federal Investment Company Act of 1940. Any such burdens could be material. Among the particular repercussions for us would be a violation of existing covenants under our revolving credit facility requiring us to not be an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, which could in the short or long term affect our liquidity and increase our cost of capital and operational expenses, all of which would adversely affect our operating results. It is possible that such an outcome could threaten the viability of our business and our ability to satisfy our obligations as they come due, including obligations under our L Bonds.

*Being a public company results in additional expenses and diverts management's attention, and could also adversely affect our ability to attract and retain qualified directors.*

We have been a public reporting company since January 31, 2012. As a public reporting company, we are subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These requirements generate significant accounting, legal and financial compliance costs, and make some activities more difficult, time consuming or costly, and may place significant strain on our personnel and resources. The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires, among other things, that we maintain effective disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting. In order to establish the requisite disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, significant resources and management oversight are required.

As a result, management's attention may be diverted from other business concerns, which could have an adverse and even material effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. These rules and regulations may also make it more difficult and expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability

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insurance. If we are unable to obtain appropriate director and officer insurance, our ability to recruit and retain qualified officers and directors, especially those directors who may be deemed independent, could be adversely impacted.

***Our business and prospects may be adversely affected by changes, lack of growth or increased competition in the life insurance secondary market.***

The growth of the life insurance policy secondary market and our expansion within the market may be negatively affected by a variety of factors beyond our control, including:

- the inability to locate sufficient numbers of life insurance policy sellers and agents to source such sellers;
- the inability to convince life insurance policy owners of the benefits of selling their life insurance policy;
- competition from other companies in the life insurance secondary market;
- negative publicity about the market based on actual or perceived abuses; and
- the adoption of additional governmental regulation.

The relatively new and evolving nature of the market in which we operate makes these risks unique and difficult to quantify. Nevertheless, contractions in the secondary market for life insurance policies, whether resulting from general economic conditions, regulatory or legal pressures or otherwise (including regulatory pressures exerted on us or others involved in the secondary market for life insurance or involved with participants in that market), could make participation in that market generally less desirable. This could, in turn, depress the prices at which life insurance policies on the secondary market are bought and sold. As indicated elsewhere in this prospectus, decreases in the value of life insurance policies on the secondary market could negatively affect our results of operations and our financial condition since the value of our policy portfolio is marked to market on a quarterly basis.

***Changes in general economic conditions could adversely impact our business.***

Changes in general economic conditions, including, for example, interest rates, investor sentiment, changes specifically affecting the insurance industry, competition, technological developments, political and diplomatic events, tax laws, and other factors not known to us today, can substantially and adversely affect our business and prospects. For example, changes in interest rates may increase our cost of capital and ability to raise capital, and have a corresponding adverse impact on our operating results. While we may engage in certain hedging activities to mitigate the impact of these changes, none of these conditions are or will be within our control.

***If actuarial assumptions we obtain from third-party providers and rely on to model our expected returns on our investments in life insurance policies change, our operating results and cash flow could be adversely affected, as well as the value of our collateral and our ability to service our debt obligations, including obligations owed to the holders of L Bonds.***

The expected internal rate of return we calculate we will earn when purchasing a life insurance policy is based upon a probability curve estimate of how long the insured will live an actuarial life expectancy estimate. We presently obtain actuarial life expectancy estimates from third-party medical-actuarial underwriting companies. In the case of small face policies, which we currently define as life insurance policies with less than \$1,000,000 in face value of policy benefits, we may choose not to obtain life expectancies from third-party medical-actuarial firms, but rather use standard mortality tables to develop our own life expectancy of an insured. These actuarial life expectancies are subject to interpretation and change based on evolving medical technology, actuarial data and analytical techniques. Any increase in the actuarial life expectancy estimates of insureds within our portfolio could have a materially adverse effect on our operating results and cash flow. Adverse impacts on the value of our life insurance policy portfolio or our cash flow could in turn

impair the value of the collateral we have pledged to our creditors, including the holders of our L Bonds, and our ability to service our debt and obligations as they come due.

For example, on January 22, 2013, 21st Services, an independent provider of life expectancy analysis and related services for the life settlement industry in general, announced advancements in its underwriting methodology, resulting in revised life expectancy mortality tables for life settlement transactions. Based on information publicly released by 21st Services, the revised tables incorporate significantly more older-age mortality data than earlier versions commonly used by the life insurance industry, resulting in a far greater ability to:

assess the magnitude of impact that hundreds of different types of health impairments have on senior mortality on a case-by-case basis;

apply credits and debits during the underwriting process in a manner that accounts for the different impacts of the same impairments for males and females; and

reflect the difference in mortality between insureds who have sold policies and the group of 90,000 insureds underwritten by 21st Services, most of whom did not ultimately sell their policies in the life settlement market (such difference is frequently referred to in the life-settlement industry as anti-selection ).

21st Services reported that the revised mortality tables reflected an average 19% increase in the life expectancy of insureds. Nevertheless, 21st Services representatives have also advised us that generalizations could not be gleaned from their report as the changes that were made were very granular and dependent upon the specific medical conditions of an insured, as well as other factors. More specifically, mortality tables increased the general life expectancies most significantly for people leading an active lifestyle. The revised tables also generally reflect increased life expectancies for non-smoking men and women. 21st Services representatives have further advised us that (i) certain medical conditions have resulted in increased life expectancies (e.g., cardiovascular disease) and some conditions resulted in decreased life expectancies, and (ii) the revised tables also have greater impact on the life expectancies of insureds who are younger.

For a majority of our life insurance policy purchases, we use 21st Services life expectancy estimates as one of two such estimates we generally obtain prior to purchasing life insurance policies on the secondary market and average those estimates for our life expectancy estimate. The life expectancy of an insured has an inverse relationship to the expected internal rate of return to be generated from life insurance policies purchased in the secondary market. A reduced internal rate of return may reduce the value of a life insurance policy available for purchase on the secondary market, and the value of life insurance policies already purchased by us and being serviced in our portfolio.

As of December 31, 2012, we increased all life expectancy reports provided by 21st Services by an average of 8.67%. The impact of this adjustment to the fair value of our portfolio was a decrease of \$12.4 million as of December 31, 2012, and the impact on our expected internal rate of return was a decrease from 14.27% to 12.84%. In February 2013, we began the process of evaluating the impact of 21st Services' revised mortality tables upon our portfolio. We concluded that the adjustments we made a year ago were reasonable based upon the updated life expectancy estimates we have received as of December 31, 2013.

We generally rely on two life expectancy estimates from independent third-party medical-actuarial underwriting firms to develop our own life expectancy estimate. In some cases, we may obtain more than two life expectancy estimates. In those cases, we average the two life expectancy estimates that we believe are the most reliable of those we have received, based on our own analyses and conclusions. In this regard, the two life expectancy estimates we ultimately choose to average may not always be the most conservative ones we obtain.

In addition to actuarial life expectancies, we rely on pricing and premium forecasting software models developed by third-party actuarial companies for the valuation of policies we purchase, future mortality revenues, and the calculation of anticipated internal rates of return. These pricing models forecast the estimated future premiums due, as well as the future mortalities based on the survival probabilities of the

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insureds over their life expectancies. It is possible that the actuarial tables we presently use will again change in the future or that the mortality assumptions will fail substantially to meet actuarial estimates, and that any such failure could have a materially adverse effect on our business.

On September 15, 2014, 21st Services announced changes to its mortality tables primarily for insureds age 90 and older, as well as updated adjustment factors designed to better underwrite seniors with multiple impairments. These changes represent small portions of 21st Services historical underwritings and were not material to the company's portfolio of life insurance policies. We expect medical-actuarial underwriting firms to continue improving and refining their underwriting methodology. We will continue to monitor developments in medical-actuarial methodologies. We generally expect to incorporate such changes to our portfolio when we update our life expectancy reports.

***We rely on estimated rates of mortality for the actuarial assumptions we use when valuing life insurance policies and forecasting the performance of our portfolio, and we also rely on other estimates derived from statistical methodologies for projecting our future cash flows, among other things. If our estimates prove to be incorrect, it could materially and adversely affect our ability to satisfy our debt service and repayment obligations, including our obligations under the L Bonds.***

If we assume we will receive cash inflows from policies sooner than we actually do, we may not be able to make payment on our debt obligations, including our L Bonds, in a timely manner, or at all. Moreover, a significant discovery that results in mortality improvements among seniors, above historically predicted rates by medical actuaries providing life expectancies, could have a material adverse effect on our life insurance policy investments.

For example, we use a modeling method for projecting cash flows known as the probabilistic method. This is an actuarial method that uses a mortality curve to project the likely flow of policy benefits to us, and attempts to reflect the probability that each premium must be paid. We have in fact experienced fewer cash flows from policy benefits than projected in the early stages of ownership of our current life insurance policy portfolio using this method. We had expected to receive approximately \$65.7 million in cumulative policy benefits as of December 31, 2013, and in fact received \$28.6 million. This has resulted in greater than expected premium payments, increasing from an expected \$58.6 million to \$61.0 million. Barring significant mortality improvements (i.e., medical advancements relating to the medical conditions of insureds), however, the fact that actual results have differed from the expectations derived from the probabilistic method of projecting cash flows should ordinarily result in greater cash flows later in the portfolio's servicing period.

We update and revise our projected future cash flows each month using the probabilistic method to reflect the actual experience within our life insurance policy portfolio to date. We use the current future cash flow projection to generate our expected internal rate of return on the life insurance policy portfolio we own. We would expect to change our method of calculating our future cash flows only if leading actuarial firms no longer believed such methodology was the most appropriate means of generating projected cash flows from a life insurance policy portfolio. Any change to the pricing model, methodology, premium forecasting assumptions, cash flow projections, or the mortality assumptions accompanied therewith that increase the projected cost of insurance premiums or decrease the probability of mortality could have a material and adverse impact on our results of operations and cash flows. Ultimately, this could adversely affect our ability to meet our debt service and repayment obligations, including our obligations under the L Bonds.

### **Risks Related to This Offering and Our Company**

***We may not be able to raise the capital that we are seeking in this offering or in our offering of previously issued L Bonds, and may be unable to meet our overall business objectives of growing a larger, more statistically diverse portfolio of life insurance policies without the proceeds from the sale of such securities.***

Emerson Equity LLC serves as our placement agent and managing broker-dealer in this offering of L Bonds on a best-efforts basis. Although Emerson Equity, LLC has agreed to use its best efforts in the offer and sale of the L Bonds, there is no minimum aggregate principal amount of L Bonds that we must sell prior

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to accessing investor funds, and we may not be able to sell the L Bonds that we are seeking to sell in this offering. Consequently, the additional capital we are seeking may not ultimately be obtained.

Our offering of previously issued L Bonds has been the principal means by which we have raised the funds needed to meet our goal of growing a larger and more statistically diverse portfolio that is more likely to meet our cash flow projections. While we plan to continue financing our business and meet this goal through this offering of L Bonds, if we are unable to continue this offering for any reason we may be unable to meet our goal. In addition, if holders of our Series I Secured notes or previously issued L Bonds were to fail to renew those securities with the frequency we have historically experienced, and actual cash flows from our portfolio of life insurance policies do not occur as our actuarial

projections have forecasted, we could be forced to sell our investments in life insurance policies in order to service or satisfy our debt-related obligations. If we are forced to sell investments in life insurance policies or our entire portfolio, we may be unable to sell them at prices we believe are appropriate, and may not be able to sell them at prices that approximate the discount rate we have applied to value our portfolio, particularly if our sale of policies occurs at a time when we are (or are perceived to be) in distress. In any such event, our business and the value of our securities, including our debt securities and common stock, may be materially and adversely impacted. Accordingly, there is a risk that you could lose your entire investment.

***We depend upon cash distributions from our subsidiaries, and contractual restrictions on distributions to us or adverse events at one of our operating subsidiaries could materially and adversely affect our ability to pay our debts, including our obligations under the L Bonds, and to continue to operate our business.***

GWG Holdings, Inc. is a holding company. As a holding company, we conduct our operations through our operating subsidiaries, and our only significant assets are the capital stock of our subsidiaries. Accordingly, our ability to meet our cash obligations, including our obligations under the L Bonds, depends in material part upon the ability of our subsidiaries to make cash distributions to us. In this regard, the ability of our subsidiaries to make distributions to us is, and will continue to be, restricted by certain negative covenants in the agreement governing our revolving credit facility. DLP Funding II is the borrower under our revolving credit facility (see note 6 to our consolidated financial statements). The significant majority of the insurance policies we own are subject to a collateral arrangement with the agent for our revolving credit lender, as described in note 2 to our consolidated financial statements. Under this arrangement, collection and escrow accounts are used to fund purchases of and premiums for the insurance policies and to pay interest and other charges under the revolving credit facility. The lender and its agent must authorize all disbursements from these accounts, including any distributions to GWG Life. Distributions are limited to an amount that would result in the borrowers (us) realizing an annualized rate of return on the equity funded amount for such assets of not more than 18%, as determined by the agent. After such amount is reached, the credit agreement requires that excess funds be used to fund repayments or a reserve account in certain amount, before any additional distributions may be made.

If any of the above limitations were to materially impede the flow of cash to us, such fact would materially and adversely affect our ability to service and repay our debt, including obligations under the L Bonds and Series I Secured notes. In addition, any adverse event at the subsidiary level, such as a declaration of bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization or an event of default under our revolving credit facility, could materially and adversely affect the ability of our subsidiaries to make cash distributions to us. Just as with a material contractual impediment to cash flow, any such subsidiary corporate event would materially and adversely affect our ability to service and repay our debt, including obligations under the L Bonds, and negatively impact our ability to continue operations.

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***Subordination provisions contained in the indenture will restrict the ability of the trustee or the L Bond holders to enforce their rights against us under the indenture, including the right to payment on the L Bonds, if a default then exists under our revolving credit facility.***

The L Bonds will be subordinate in right of payment to any claims of the senior lender under our revolving credit facility. In this regard, subordination provisions limiting the right of L Bond holders to enforce their rights are contained in the indenture. These provisions include:

a prohibition on challenging any enforcement action taken by a senior lender or interfering with any legal action or suits undertaken by a senior lender against us and our affiliates;

a 180-day standstill period during which there may not be brought any action to enforce an event of default against us or our affiliates unless our revolving credit facility has been repaid in full, which period may be extended if the credit facility provider takes action during such standstill period; and

a prohibition on filing a bankruptcy or insolvency case against us or our affiliates for at least one year plus one day after the revolving credit facility lender has been paid in full.

Furthermore, in the event of a default, we will be prohibited from making any payment, direct or indirect (whether for interest, principal, as a result of any redemption or repayment at maturity, on default, or otherwise), on the L Bonds and any other indebtedness, and neither the holders of the L Bonds nor the trustee will have the right, directly or indirectly, to sue to enforce the indenture or the L Bonds, if a default or event of default under any senior credit facility has occurred and is continuing, or if any default or event of default under any senior credit facility would result from such payment. This payment restriction will generally remain in effect unless and until: (i) the default and event of default respecting

the senior credit facility has been cured or waived or has ceased to exist; and (ii) the end of the period commencing on the date the indenture trustee receives written notice of default from a holder of such credit facility and ending on the earlier of the indenture trustee's receipt of (1) a valid waiver of default from the holder of a credit facility, or (2) a written notice from the holder of a credit facility terminating the payment blockage period.

Other provisions of the indenture permit the trustee to take action to enforce the right of L Bond holders to payment after 179 days have passed since the trustee's receipt of notice of default from the senior lender, but in such case any funds paid as a result of any such suit or enforcement action shall be applied toward the senior credit facility until the facility is indefeasibly paid in full before being applied to the L Bonds. These subordination provisions present the risk that, upon any default by us on obligations owed under our senior debt, the holders of the L Bonds will be unable to enforce their right to payment.

If the 180-day standstill period noted above or any other limitation on the rights of the trustee or L Bond holders to assert their rights to payment of principal or interest under the indenture or L Bonds is ultimately determined to conflict with provisions of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (most notably sections 316(b) and 317(a) of that Act), then the trustee, as well as any holder who shall not have earlier consented to such subordination provisions, shall (notwithstanding such provision contained in the indenture) be authorized to institute a lawsuit for the enforcement of any payment of principal or interest after their respective due dates.

***The collateral granted as security for our obligations under the L Bonds and Series I Secured notes may be insufficient to repay the indebtedness upon an event of default.***

Our L Bonds and Series I Secured notes are structurally subordinate to all obligations of our wholly owned subsidiary DLP Funding II. Importantly in this regard, DLP Funding II owns most of our life insurance policies and is the borrower under the credit facility. This means that holders of the L Bonds and Series I Secured notes will have a junior position to the claims of our senior credit facility provider.

Thus, L Bonds and Series I Secured notes are subordinate to all senior secured debt we have or may incur, to the extent of the value of the assets securing that debt. Importantly, as the issuers of the L Bonds and Series I Secured notes which have granted a general security interest in its assets as collateral security for those obligations, GWG Holdings and GWG Life's most significant assets are cash and their investments in subsidiaries. GWG Holdings' total assets at September 30, 2014 were approximately \$311 million, of which

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approximately \$172 million was its investment in subsidiaries. While the indenture agreements governing the L Bonds limits the amount of debt we and our subsidiaries can incur (through the debt coverage ratio covenant contained in Section 6.1 of such indenture), the indenture permits us and our subsidiaries to incur secured debt (subject to the debt coverage ratio) that may be senior to the L Bonds. For more information relating to the debt coverage ratio, please refer to the risk factor below captioned *Because we intend to hold our life insurance policies to their maturity*, page 30.

As indicated above, as of September 30, 2014, we had approximately \$79 million of outstanding secured indebtedness under our revolving credit facility that is senior to the L Bonds. For a description of the ranking of the L Bonds, see *Description of the L Bonds Ranking* in this prospectus. In addition, the guarantee and associated grant of collateral security by GWG Life for our obligations under the L Bonds may offer security that is insufficient to fully satisfy obligations under the L Bonds. Like GWG Holdings, GWG Life's most significant asset is its investment in its subsidiaries (in this case, DLP Funding II). GWG Life's total assets at September 30, 2014 were approximately \$203 million, of which approximately \$199 million was its investment in subsidiaries.

Because of the foregoing, and because of the fact that 75.8% of our life insurance policies representing approximately 78.6% of the face value of our life insurance policy benefits as of September 30, 2014 are held in our DLP Funding II subsidiary or its associated master trust (and all of those assets serve as collateral security for our obligations under the revolving credit facility), L Bond holders risk the possibility that the collateral security we have granted for our obligations under such securities may be insufficient to repay those securities upon an event of default.

***If a significant number of holders of our Series I Secured notes and previously issued L Bonds demand repayment of those instruments instead of renewing them, and at such time we do not have sufficient capital on hand to fund such repayment (and do not otherwise have access to sufficient capital), we may be forced to liquidate some of our life insurance assets, which could have a material and adverse impact on our results of operations.***

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Our direct and wholly owned subsidiary, GWG Life, had issued and outstanding approximately \$29.7 million and \$28.2 million in Series I Secured notes as of December 31, 2013 and September 30, 2014, respectively. By virtue of GWG Life's full and unconditional guarantee of obligations under the L Bonds, and other agreements contained in or made in connection with the indenture, the L Bonds are pari passu in right of payment and collateral with the Series I Secured notes. The indenture governing the L Bonds, and the note issuance and security agreement governing the Series I Secured notes, each provide for cross defaults upon an event of default under the provisions of the other agreement (i.e., an event of default under the note issuance and security agreement will constitute an event of default under the indenture for the L Bonds, and vice versa).

The terms of the Series I Secured notes have renewal features. Since we first issued our Series I Secured notes, we have experienced \$131,774,000 in maturities, of which \$102,260,000 has renewed for an additional term as of September 30, 2014. This has provided us with an aggregate renewal rate of approximately 78% for investments in our Series I Secured notes. Future contractual maturities of Series I Secured notes payable at September 30, 2014 are as follows:

### Years Ending December 31,

Three months ending December 31, 2014	\$ 1,925,000
2015	12,729,000
2016	8,217,000
2017	4,427,000
2018	754,000
Thereafter	141,000
	\$28,193,000

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The terms of the previously issued L Bonds also have renewal features. Since we first issued our previously issued L Bonds, we have experienced \$51,493,000 in maturities, of which \$34,105,000 has renewed for an additional term as of September 30, 2014. This has provided us with an aggregate renewal rate of approximately 66% for investments in the previously issued L Bonds. Future contractual maturities of previously issued L Bonds at September 30, 2014 are as follows:

### Years Ending December 31,

Three months ending December 31, 2014	\$ 16,086,000
2015	55,676,000
2016	43,434,000
2017	21,950,000
2018	10,730,000
Thereafter	25,369,000
	\$173,245,000

If investors holding existing indebtedness with short-term maturities do not elect to renew and we do not, at such time, have access to sufficient capital or have not raised sufficient capital by other financing efforts, we may need to liquidate some of our investments in life insurance policies earlier than anticipated. In such an event, we may be unable to sell those life insurance policies at prices we believe are fair or otherwise appropriate and such sales could have a material and adverse impact on our results of operations.

*Because we intend to hold our life insurance policies to their maturity, we therefore measure our debt coverage ratio against our current cost of financing, which may not reflect the sale price of our life insurance policies if we were to liquidate them.*

We intend and expect to hold the life insurance policy investments until they are paid out at the mortality of the insured. As a result, we measure our debt coverage ratio based on the portfolio's gross expected yield against the interest cost of our total debt obligations to finance the portfolio. The debt coverage ratio, expressed as a percentage, is defined as the ratio of (i) total amounts outstanding on any indebtedness for borrowed money, over (ii) the net present asset value of all life insurance assets we own, plus any cash held in our accounts. For this purpose, the net present asset value is calculated as the present value of the life insurance portfolio's expected future cash flows discounted at the weighted-average interest rate of the indebtedness for the previous month. Under the indenture, the maximum amount of such securities we may issue at any time is limited to an amount such that our debt coverage ratio does not exceed 90%. This limitation is designed to provide some comfort to holders of our debt that the value of our assets exceeds our obligations to those holders. Nevertheless, the debt coverage ratio (as calculated) is not based on the fair value of our life insurance assets, which may be different—greater or less—than the amount we would receive if we were forced to sell those assets in the marketplace. Furthermore, mere compliance with the debt coverage ratio does not contemplate or account for the significant transactional costs that could be associated with a sale of all or any significant portion of our portfolio. Please see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources—Debt Financings Summary for more information.

***We have no obligation to redeem L Bonds prior to their maturity date except in narrowly limited circumstances.***

We will have no obligation, and L Bond holders will have no right to require us, to redeem any L Bond prior to its maturity date. The only exceptions exist for situations in which an individual natural person investor suffers a total permanent disability or a bankruptcy, or dies. In any such event, we will be required to redeem the L Bond of such person so long as certain procedural requirements are met. Outside these narrow exceptions, we may nonetheless agree, in our sole and absolute discretion, to accommodate requests to redeem an L Bond prior to its maturity in other cases. If we do agree to redeem an L Bond, we will assess a 6% redemption fee for such transaction. For more information, see Description of the L Bonds—Call and

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Redemption Prior to Stated Maturity. As a result, any investment in an L Bond should be considered illiquid and unable to be redeemed until its stated maturity.

***Fraudulent transfer statutes may limit your rights under the guarantee of the L Bonds.***

Our obligations under the L Bonds will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by our direct wholly owned subsidiary, GWG Life. The guarantee may be subject to review under various laws for the protection of creditors. It is possible that other creditors of GWG Life may challenge the guarantee as a fraudulent transfer under relevant federal and state laws. Under certain circumstances, including a finding that GWG Life was insolvent at the time its guarantee was issued, a court could hold that the obligations of GWG Life under the guarantee may be voided or are subordinate to other obligations of GWG Life, or that the amount for which GWG Life is liable under its guarantee of the L Bonds may be limited. Different jurisdictions define insolvency differently, and we cannot assure you as to what standard a court would apply to determine whether GWG Life was insolvent. If a court were to determine that GWG Life was insolvent on the date on which it guaranteed the L Bonds, or that the guarantee constituted a fraudulent transfer on other legal grounds, the claims of creditors of GWG Life would effectively have priority with respect to GWG Life's assets and earnings over the claims of the holders of the L Bonds.

***Our controlling stockholders and principal executives are involved in a litigation—clawback—claim made by a bankruptcy trustee to an affiliate, and it is possible that the trustee may assert claims against our company.***

Our Chief Executive Officer, Jon R. Sabes, and our Executive Vice President of Originations and Servicing and Secretary, Steven F. Sabes, who together beneficially own or control approximately 74.81% of our common stock, are subject to litigation relating to claims by a bankruptcy trustee for loan payments made to an affiliate, Opportunity Finance, LLC. The litigation stems from the 2010 conviction of an individual operating a fraudulent business scheme which filed for bankruptcy in 2008. The bankruptcy trustee alleges that loan repayments to Opportunity Finance were avoidable transfers under preference or other legal theories and seeks to recover amounts for other creditors of the bankruptcy estate. Such payments may ultimately be deemed to be avoidable transfers under preference or other legal theories. Case No. 08-45257 (U.S. Bankruptcy Court District of Minnesota). In addition, GWG Holdings invested \$1.0 million in Opportunity Finance, LLC in 2006 and was repaid and received \$176,948 of interest income from that investment in 2007. To date, no claim has been made against GWG Holdings.

Although we believe there are numerous meritorious defenses to the claims made by the bankruptcy trustee, and we are advised that the defendants in that action will vigorously defend against the trustee's claims, such defendants may not prevail in the litigation with the bankruptcy



trustee. If the bankruptcy trustee sought to sell or transfer the equity interests of Jon R. Sabes or Steven F. Sabes as a result of the litigation, there could be a change in control of the Company, and our business together with all of our investors, including investors in our common stock, could be materially and adversely impacted. Such adverse results would likely arise in connection with negative change-in-control covenants contained in our revolving credit facility agreements, the breach of those covenants and an ensuing event of default under such facility. Finally, regardless of the outcome of this litigation, these matters are likely to distract management and reduce the time and attention that they are able to devote to our business.

***We have no obligation to contribute to a sinking fund to retire the L Bonds, nor are the L Bonds guaranteed by any governmental agency.***

We have no obligation to contribute funds to a sinking fund to repay principal or interest on the L Bonds upon maturity or default. The L Bonds are not certificates of deposit or similar obligations of, or guaranteed by, any depository institution. Further, no governmental entity insures or guarantees payment on the L Bonds if we do not have enough funds to make principal or interest payments.

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***The loss of the services of our current executives or other key employees, or the failure to attract additional key individuals, would materially and adversely affect our business operations and prospects.***

Our financial success is dependent to a significant degree upon the efforts of our current executive officers and other key employees. In addition, our revolving credit facility requires Messrs. Jon R. Sabes and Steven F. Sabes to generally remain active within the business. We have entered into employment agreements with Messrs. Jon R. Sabes, Steven F. Sabes, Paul A. Siegert, William Acheson and Jon Gangelhoff. Nevertheless, there can be no assurance that these individuals will continue to provide services to us. A voluntary or involuntary termination of employment could have materially adverse effect on our business operations if we were not able to attract qualified replacements in a timely manner. At present, we do not maintain key-man life insurance policies for any of these individuals. In addition, our success and viability is also dependent to a significant extent upon our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel in all areas of our business, especially our sales, policy acquisition, and financial management team. If we were to lose the members of these service teams, we would need to replace them with qualified individuals in a timely manner or our business operations and prospects could be adversely impacted.

***We have the discretion to purchase assets, including life insurance policies, through different subsidiaries, and to transfer assets among our subsidiaries. Any decision to purchase or hold title to assets in one subsidiary, as opposed to a different subsidiary, may affect the value of collateral security for our obligation under the L Bonds.***

We may at our discretion direct the purchase of policies by, and the sale of policies and other assets amongst, different subsidiaries of GWG Holdings as a method of asset and liability management and to attempt to maintain diversification and certain ratios in our investment portfolio. Purchases of assets in, or movements of assets amongst, different subsidiaries could affect the value of the collateral security for obligations under the L Bonds. For example, purchases through, or transfers of life insurance policies to, DLP Funding II would cause the policies acquired by DLP Funding II to become collateral for our revolving credit facility, whereas purchases through, or transfers of life insurance policies to, GWG Life would cause the policies acquired by GWG Life to become collateral for the L Bonds. Accordingly, purchases of assets such as life insurance policies through, or transfers of such assets to, different subsidiaries may affect the value of collateral security for different classes of holders of our debt, including the L Bonds. In the case of a liquidation, any of these discretionary decisions may affect the value of and amount you may ultimately be entitled to receive with respect to your L Bonds.

***We are an emerging growth company and our election to delay adoption of new or revised accounting standards applicable to public companies may result in our financial statements not being comparable to those of some other public companies. As a result of this and other reduced disclosure requirements applicable to emerging growth companies, our securities may be less attractive to investors.***

As a public reporting company with less than \$1.0 billion in revenue during our last fiscal year, we qualify as an emerging growth company under the Jumpstart our Business Startups Act of 2012, or the JOBS Act. An emerging growth company may take advantage of certain reduced reporting requirements and is relieved of certain other significant requirements that are otherwise generally applicable to public companies. In particular, as an emerging growth company we:

are not required to obtain an attestation and report from our auditors on our management's assessment of our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002;

are not required to provide a detailed narrative disclosure discussing our compensation principles, objectives and elements and analyzing how those elements fit with our principles and objectives (commonly referred to as compensation discussion and analysis );

are not required to obtain a non-binding advisory vote from our stockholders on executive compensation or golden parachute arrangements (commonly referred to as the say-on-pay, say-on-frequency and say-on-golden-parachute votes);

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are exempt from certain executive compensation disclosure provisions requiring a pay-for-performance graph and CEO pay ratio disclosure;

may present only two years of audited financial statements and only two years of related Management's Discussion & Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, or MD&A; and

are eligible to claim longer phase-in periods for the adoption of new or revised financial accounting standards under §107 of the JOBS Act.

We intend to take advantage of all of these reduced reporting requirements and exemptions, including the longer phase-in periods for the adoption of new or revised financial accounting standards under §107 of the JOBS Act. Our election to use the phase-in periods may make it difficult to compare our financial statements to those of non-emerging growth companies and other emerging growth companies that have opted out of the phase-in periods under §107 of the JOBS Act.

Certain of these reduced reporting requirements and exemptions were already available to us due to the fact that we also qualify as a smaller reporting company under SEC rules. For instance, smaller reporting companies are not required to obtain an auditor attestation and report regarding management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting; are not required to provide a compensation discussion and analysis; are not required to provide a pay-for-performance graph or CEO pay ratio disclosure; and may present only two years of audited financial statements and related MD&A disclosure.

Under the JOBS Act, we may take advantage of the above-described reduced reporting requirements and exemptions for up to five years after our initial sale of common equity pursuant to a registration statement declared effective under the Securities Act of 1933, or such earlier time that we no longer meet the definition of an emerging growth company. In this regard, the JOBS Act provides that we would cease to be an emerging growth company if we have more than \$1.0 billion in annual revenues, have more than \$700 million in market value of our common stock held by non-affiliates, or issue more than \$1.0 billion in principal amount of non-convertible debt over a three-year period. Furthermore, under current SEC rules we will continue to qualify as a smaller reporting company for so long as we have a public float (i.e., the market value of common equity held by non-affiliates) of less than \$75 million as of the last business day of our most recently completed second fiscal quarter.

We cannot predict if investors will find our securities less attractive due to our reliance on these exemptions. If investors were to find our securities less attractive as a result of our election, we may have difficulty raising all of the proceeds we seek in this offering.

***We do not expect a market to exist that will enable you to sell your L Bonds.***

Although we are a public reporting company that files information with the SEC, the L Bonds will not be readily resalable or transferable. No public market for the L Bonds exists and none is expected to develop. As a result, the transferability of the L Bonds will be limited. Accordingly, the purchase of L Bonds is not suitable for investors desiring liquidity at any time prior to the maturity of the L Bonds.

***We cannot know the tax implications of an investment in the L Bonds for the L Bond holder.***

The section of this prospectus entitled Material Federal Income Tax Considerations sets forth a summary of federal income tax consequences to the purchasers of the L Bonds. No information is provided concerning tax consequences under any other federal, state, local or foreign laws that may apply to the purchasers of the L Bonds. Prospective investors or their representatives should read that section very carefully in order to properly evaluate the federal income tax risks of an investment in the L Bonds. Each prospective investor should consult his personal counsel, accountant and other business advisors as to the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of an investment in the L Bonds. L Bond

holders will receive an IRS Form 1099-INT in connection with their receipt of interest payments.

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*Advances previously made to members of our executive management and outstanding at the time that we initially filed the registration statement for our offering of previously issued L Bonds may be deemed violations of Section 402 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. That law prohibits public reporting companies from extending or maintaining credit to directors or executive officers in the form of a personal loan. Any such violations could have a material and adverse effect upon our reputation and business.*

Prior to our conversion from a limited liability company to a corporation and the filing of the registration statement for our offering of previously issued L Bonds, we made certain advances to our executive management personnel, Messrs. Jon R. Sabes, Steven F. Sabes and Paul A. Siegert, that were to be repaid by such individuals upon or in connection with operating distributions to be paid by us when the Company had cash flow sufficient to make distributions on account of their ownership interests in the Company. For further information, please refer to the Executive Compensation section of this prospectus the Summary Compensation Table, Employment Agreements and Change-in-Control Provisions, and Related-Party Transactions captions thereunder.

Each of Messrs. Jon R. Sabes, Steven F. Sabes and Paul A. Siegert have repaid all outstanding advances, including all interest accrued thereon. Nevertheless, because such loan advances remained outstanding at the time that we initially filed such registration statement with the SEC, we may be deemed to have inadvertently violated Section 402 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, which prohibits issuers from extending or maintaining credit to directors or executive officers in the form of a personal loan. As defined under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the term issuer includes, in addition to public companies, a company that has filed a registration statement that has not yet become effective under the Securities Act of 1933 and that has not been withdrawn. Although we believe that the loan advances constitute business loans, as opposed to personal loans, regulatory authorities may not agree with this assessment if the matter is investigated and claims alleging a violation are pursued. On July 27, 2011, Messrs. Jon R. Sabes, Steven F. Sabes and Paul A. Siegert repaid their loan balances.

Violations of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 could result in significant penalties, including censure, cease and desist orders, revocation of registration and fines. It is also possible that the criminal penalties could exist, although criminal penalties require a related violation to have been willful, and not the result of an innocent mistake, negligence or inadvertence. In the end, it is possible that we could face any of these potential penalties or results, and any action by administrative authorities, whether or not ultimately successful, could have a material and adverse effect upon our reputation and business.

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**USE OF PROCEEDS**

If all of the L Bonds are sold, we expect to receive up to approximately \$918.5 million of net proceeds from this offering after paying estimated offering and related expenses and after paying our estimated average selling and wholesale commissions, dealer-manager fees, and accountable expense allowance. The estimated commissions, dealer-manager fees, accountable expense allowance and wholesale commissions of our selling group members aggregate to approximately \$80 million based on expected average selling commissions of \$50 million (5.00%), dealer-manager fees of \$5 million (0.50%), and accountable expenses, wholesale commissions, and any non-transaction-based and non-cash selling compensation aggregating to \$25 million (2.50%), assuming the sale of all of the L Bonds. We have also agreed to reimburse Emerson Equity for certain pre-offering expenses that we expect will aggregate to no more than \$180,500. In addition, we expect that our offering expenses, consisting of legal, accounting, printing, mailing, registration, qualification and associated securities offering filing costs and expenses, will aggregate to approximately \$1,350,000 through the course of this offering.

As explained elsewhere in this prospectus, the maximum amount of commissions, fees and allowances (including non-transaction-based and non-cash selling compensation, if any) payable to FINRA selling members is 8.00% of the aggregate principal amount of L Bonds sold. Therefore, if all of the L Bonds were sold and the maximum commissions, fees and allowances and reimbursements were paid, we estimate that the net proceeds to us, after paying our own estimated offering and related expenses, would be approximately \$918.5 million. Nevertheless, because we do not know the total principal amount of L Bonds that will be ultimately sold, we are unable to accurately forecast the total net

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proceeds that will be generated by this offering. For more information about dealer-manager fees, selling commissions, and accountable expenses payable to our selling group in connection with the sale of L Bonds, as well as our own offering and related expenses, please see Plan of Distribution.

There is no minimum amount of L Bonds that must be sold before we access investor funds. The exact amount of proceeds we receive may vary considerably depending on a variety of factors, including how long the L Bonds are offered.

Our goal is to use a majority of the net proceeds from the sale of L Bonds to purchase additional life insurance policy assets in the secondary market. The amount of proceeds we apply towards purchasing additional life insurance policy assets will depend, among other things, on how long the L Bonds are offered, the amount of net proceeds that we receive from the sale of L Bonds being offered, the existence and timing of opportunities to expand our portfolio of insurance policy assets, our cash needs for certain other expenditures (summarized below) we anticipate incurring in connection with this offering and in connection with our business, and the availability of other sources of cash (e.g., our revolving credit facility). These certain other expenditures, listed in order of priority, include:

paying premiums on life insurance assets we own;

paying principal at maturity, interest and fees to our lenders, including under our revolving credit facility, the Series I Secured notes, the previously issued L Bonds and the L Bonds offered hereby; and paying fees and expenses of the trustees of certain trusts associated with our Series I Secured notes, the previously issued L Bonds and the L Bonds offered hereby; and

providing funds for portfolio operations and working capital purposes.

Our use of funds for portfolio operations is expected to include, but not be limited to, expenditures such as (i) obtaining life expectancy reports, (ii) mortality tracking and (iii) legal and collections expenses; and our use of funds for working capital purposes is expected to include, but not be limited to, (iv) sales and marketing expenses, (v) general and administrative expenses, as well as (vi) tax liabilities, and (vii) interest rate caps, swaps or hedging instruments for our life insurance policy portfolio or our indebtedness.

As indicated above, the extent to which we will use proceeds from this offering for these other purposes, and the amounts and timing of such expenditures will depend on, among other things, how long the L Bonds are offered, the amount of net proceeds that we receive from the sale of L Bonds being offered, the existence

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and timing of opportunities to expand our portfolio of insurance policy assets, the availability of funds from other sources, including borrowings from our revolving credit facility and cash generated from our operations, and certain other factors. We currently expect to allocate net offering proceeds (assuming the maximum amount of commissions, fees, allowances and any other items of selling compensation equal to 8.00% of the aggregate principal amount of L Bonds sold) as follows, based upon various assumed amounts of gross proceeds that we receive from the sale of L Bonds:

	Gross Offering Proceeds					
	\$ 1,000,000,000		\$ 500,000,000		\$ 250,000,000	
Net Offering Proceeds	918,500,000	100%	458,500,000	100%	228,500,000	100%
Purchase Policies	661,320,000	72%	330,120,000	72%	141,670,000	62%
Payment of Premiums	91,850,000	10%	45,850,000	10%	34,275,000	15%
Payment of Principal and Interest	119,405,000	13%	59,605,000	13%	41,130,000	18%
Other Expenditures	45,925,000	5%	22,925,000	5%	11,425,000	5%

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Net offering proceeds not immediately applied to the uses summarized above will be invested in short-term investments such as money market funds, commercial paper, U.S. Treasury Bills and similar securities investments pending their use. We may also purchase interest rate hedges to lock in our cost of capital, or longevity hedges to lock in our expected return from our portfolio.

As indicated above, we may use some of the net proceeds from this offering to pay premiums on life insurance assets we own. Our aggregate premium obligations over the next five years for life insurance assets that we own as of September 30, 2014 are set forth in the table below. These premium obligations do not take into account the expectation of mortality over the periods presented.

Year	Premiums
Three months ending December 31, 2014	\$ 6,364,000
2015	26,728,000
2016	29,354,000
2017	32,829,000
2018	35,753,000
Total	\$ 131,028,000

Also as indicated above, we may use some of the net proceeds from this offering to pay principal amounts owing under our Series I Secured notes or previously issued L Bonds when such amounts become due and payable. The amount of such securities that we would repay with proceeds of this offering will depend on whether the holders of such notes elect repayment rather than renewal of such securities, as well as whether we elect to use other sources of repayment. We believe it is most likely that such payments, if any, would relate to securities that mature within the first three years after the initial effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part (i.e., the maximum period of time during which we may offer securities under the registration statement). Of the Series I Secured notes presently scheduled to mature on or prior to December 31, 2017, such notes have an aggregate outstanding principal amount of approximately \$27.3 million and a weighted-average interest rate of 8.33% as of September 30, 2014. Of the previously issued L Bonds presently scheduled to mature on or prior to December 31, 2017, such securities have an aggregate outstanding principal amount of approximately \$137.1 million and a weighted-average interest rate of 7.07% as of September 30, 2014. We do not intend to use any net proceeds from this offering to repurchase Series I Secured notes or previously issued L Bonds prior to their maturity.

Some of the outstanding previously issued L Bonds due to mature within the next year may have been issued within the prior year (i.e., less than one year ago). In such a case, we used the proceeds of such debt to purchase life insurance policies or finance the servicing of such policies.

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#### CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth, as of September 30, 2014, our consolidated debt and stockholders' equity on an actual basis and as adjusted to give effect to the sale of the maximum amount of L Bonds offered hereby. You should read this table in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto which are incorporated herein by this reference.

Debt:	At September 30, 2014	
	Actual	As Adjusted
	(Dollars in thousands, except per-share amounts) (Unaudited)	
L Bonds offered hereby	\$ 0	\$ 1,000,000
L Bonds previously issued (1)	169,187	169,187
Series I Secured notes (2)	27,702	27,702
Revolving credit facility (3)	79,000	79,000

At September 30, 2014

Total debt	\$ 275,889	\$ 1,275,889
<b>Stockholders equity (accumulated deficit):</b>		
Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred (par value \$0.001; shares authorized 40,000,000; shares issued and outstanding 2,710,214; liquidation preference of \$20,327,000 on September 30, 2014)	\$ 20,218	\$ 20,218
Common stock (par value \$0.001 per share; shares authorized 210,000,000; 5,871,798 shares issued and 5,870,193 shares outstanding on September 30, 2014)	\$ 6	\$ 6
Additional paid-in capital	16,324	16,324
Accumulated Deficit	(16,327)	(16,327)
Total stockholders equity (Deficit)	\$ 20,221	\$ 20,221
Total debt, preferred stock and common stockholders equity	\$ 296,110	\$ 1,296,110

- (1) The total outstanding face amount of L Bonds previously issued by GWG Holdings, Inc. (originally under the name Renewable Secured Debentures) outstanding at September 30, 2014 was \$173,245,000 plus \$1,679,000 of subscriptions in process, less unamortized selling costs of \$5,737,000. The weighted average interest rate of our outstanding L Bonds at September 30, 2014 was approximately 7.49%, and the weighted average maturity was approximately 3.50 years. Upon effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, all securities originally issued as Renewable Secured Debentures will be renamed L Bonds.
- (2) The total outstanding face amount of Series I Secured notes outstanding at September 30, 2014 was \$28,193,000, less unamortized selling costs of \$491,000. The weighted-average interest rate of our outstanding Series I Secured notes at September 30, 2014 was approximately 8.37%, and the weighted-average maturity was approximately 1.92 years.
- (3) The interest rate of our revolving credit line floats in conjunction with advances made thereunder. The weighted-average interest rate payable under our revolving credit line at September 30, 2014 was approximately 6.22%. Amounts owing under our revolving credit line come due on December 31, 2016.
- (4) As of September 30, 2014, we had 2,710,000 preferred shares outstanding with a gross consideration of \$20,327,000 (including cash proceeds, conversion of Series I Secured notes and accrued interest on Series I notes, conversion of preferred dividends payable and conversion of preferred stock to common stock) net of redemptions. We incurred Series A preferred stock issuance costs of \$2,838,000, of which \$2,729,000 was amortized to additional paid in capital as of September 30, 2014, resulting in a carrying amount of \$20,218,000.

For more discussion and information relating to the retirement of Series I Secured notes, please refer to the Use of Proceeds section of this prospectus.

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### SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following tables set forth our summary consolidated financial information. The summary statement of operations data for fiscal years 2013 and 2012 and the selected balance sheet data as of December 31, 2013 and 2012 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements contained elsewhere in this prospectus. This selected consolidated financial information should be read in conjunction with, and is qualified by reference to, our consolidated financial statements and related notes contained herein and the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations section of this prospectus.

#### Balance Sheet Data:

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	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012
Total Assets	\$ 311,492,676	\$ 275,380,476	\$ 197,948,035
Investment in Portfolio	276,381,979	234,672,794	164,317,183
Cash and Cash Equivalents	29,511,989	33,449,793	27,497,044
Restricted Cash	2,144,734	5,832,970	2,093,092
Total Liabilities	291,271,867	256,149,798	175,303,946
Revolving Credit Facility	79,000,000	79,000,000	71,000,000
Series I Secured notes (1)	27,701,842	29,275,202	37,844,711
L Bonds previously issued (2)	169,186,917	131,646,062	55,718,950
Stockholder Preferred and Common Equity	20,220,809	19,530,678	22,644,089

- (1) The total outstanding face amount of Series I Secured notes outstanding at September 30, 2014 was \$28,193,000, less unamortized selling costs of \$491,000.
- (2) The total outstanding face amount of L Bonds previously issued by GWG Holdings, Inc. (originally under the name Renewable Secured Debentures) outstanding at September 30, 2014 was \$173,245,000 plus \$1,679,000 of subscriptions in process, less unamortized selling costs of \$5,737,000. Upon effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, all securities originally issued as Renewable Secured Debentures will be renamed L Bonds.

**Income Statement Data:**

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014	Year Ended December 31, 2013	Year Ended December 31, 2012
Total Revenue	\$ 16,143,492	\$ 33,064,774	\$ 17,525,798
Gain on Life Insurance Contracts	16,119,517	29,513,642	17,436,743
Interest Expense	19,731,327	20,762,644	10,878,627
Net Loss	(7,888,000)	(194,955)	(1,012,899)

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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF  
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATION**

You should read the following discussion in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes and the information contained in other sections of this prospectus, particularly under the headings "Risk Factors" and "Business." This discussion and analysis is based on the beliefs of our management, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, our management. The statements in this discussion and analysis concerning expectations regarding our future performance, liquidity and capital resources, as well as other non-historical statements, are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those suggested or implied by any forward-looking statements. Please see the "Risk Relating to Forward-Looking Statements" section of this prospectus.

**Overview**

We are engaged in the emerging secondary market for life insurance policies. We acquire life insurance policies in the secondary market from policy owners desiring to sell their policies at a discount to the face value of the insurance benefit. Once we purchase a policy, we continue paying the policy premiums in order to ultimately collect the face value of the insurance benefit. We generally seek to hold the individual policies to maturity, in order to ultimately collect the policy's face value upon the insured's mortality. Our strategy is to build a profitable and large (greater than 300 lives) portfolio of policies that is diversified in terms of insurance carriers and the medical conditions of insureds. We believe that diversification among insureds, insurers and medical conditions will lower our overall risk exposure, and that a larger number of individual policies (diversification in overall number) will provide our portfolio with greater actuarial stability.

In 2013, we recognized \$12,036,000 of revenue from the receipt of \$16,600,000 in policy benefits. In addition, we recognized revenue from the change in fair value of our life insurance policies, net of premiums and carrying costs, of \$17,478,000. In 2013, interest expense, including amortization of the deferred financing costs and preferred stock dividends, was \$20,763,000, and selling, general and administrative expenses were \$10,323,000. Income tax expense in 2013 was \$2,174,000. Our net loss in 2013 was \$195,000.

In the first nine months of 2014, we recognized revenue from the change in fair value of our life insurance policies, net of premiums and carrying costs, of \$16,119,000. Interest expense, including amortization of the deferred financing costs and preferred stock dividends, was \$19,731,000, and selling, general and administrative expenses were \$8,430,000. Income tax benefit for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 was \$4,130,000. Our net loss for the first nine months of 2014 was \$7,888,000.

To date, we have financed our business principally through the issuance of debt, including debt incurred by our subsidiary DLP Funding II under a senior revolving credit facility provided by Autobahn/DZ Bank, Series I Secured notes issued by our subsidiary GWG Life and our registered public offering of Renewable Secured Debentures (to be renamed L Bonds upon the effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part). See the Liquidity and Capital Resources caption below. As of September 30, 2014, the outstanding shares of our preferred stock (equaling 2,710,214 preferred shares), may be converted at the election of the holders of preferred stock into an aggregate of approximately 2,032,661 shares of our common stock.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

#### ***Critical Accounting Estimates***

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) requires us to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. We base our judgments, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on various other factors believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ materially from these estimates. We evaluate our judgments, estimates and assumptions on

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a regular basis and make changes accordingly. We believe that the judgments, estimates and assumptions involved in the accounting for the valuation of investments in life insurance policies have the greatest potential impact on our consolidated financial statements and accordingly believe these to be our critical accounting estimates. Below we discuss the critical accounting policies associated with these estimates as well as certain other critical accounting policies.

#### ***Ownership of Life Insurance Policies – Fair Value Option***

Our primary business involves the purchasing and financing of life insurance policies. As such, we account for the purchase of life insurance policies in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board's Accounting Standards Codification (FASB ASC) 325-30, *Investments in Insurance Contracts*, which requires us to use either the investment method or the fair value method. We have elected to account for these life insurance policies as investments using the fair value method.

We initially record our purchase of life insurance policies at the transaction price, which is the amount paid for the policy, inclusive of all fees and costs associated with the acquisition. The fair value of our investment in the portfolio of insurance policies is evaluated at the end of each reporting period. Changes in the fair value of the portfolio of life insurance policies are based on periodic evaluations and are recorded as changes in fair value of life insurance policies in our consolidated and combined statement of operations. The fair value is determined as the net present value of the life insurance portfolio's future expected cash flows that incorporates current life expectancy estimates and discount rate



assumptions.

In addition to reporting our results of operations and financial condition based on the fair value of our life insurance policies as required by GAAP, management also makes calculations based on the weighted average expected internal rate of return of the policies. See Non-GAAP Financial Measures below.

**Valuation of Life Insurance Policies**

Unobservable inputs, as discussed below, are a critical component of our estimate for the fair value of our investments in life insurance policies. We currently use a probabilistic method of estimating and valuing the projected cash flows of our portfolio of life insurance policies, which we believe to be the preferred and most prevalent valuation method in the industry. In this regard, the most significant assumptions we make are the life expectancy estimates of the insureds and the discount rate applied to the projected cash flows to be derived from our portfolio.

In determining life expectancy estimates, we generally use actuarial medical reviews from independent medical underwriters. These medical underwriters summarize the health of the insured by reviewing historical and current medical records. The medical underwriters evaluate the health condition of the insured in order to produce an estimate of the insured's mortality a life expectancy report. In the case of a small face policy (\$1,000,000 face value or less), we may use one life expectancy report or estimate life expectancy based on a modified methodology which does not use actuarial medical reviews from independent medical underwriters. The life expectancy estimate represents a range of probabilities for the insured's mortality against a group of cohorts with the same age, sex and smoking status. These mortality probabilities represent a mathematical curve known as a mortality curve, which is then used to generate a series of expected cash flows from the life insurance policy over the expected lifespan of the insured. A discount rate is used to calculate the net present value of the expected cash flows. The discount rate represents the internal rate of return we expect to earn on investments in a policy or in the portfolio as a whole at the stated fair value. The discount rate used to calculate fair value of our portfolio incorporates the guidance provided by ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*. Many of our current underwriting review processes, including our policy of obtaining actuarial medical reviews from independent medical underwriters as described above, are undertaken in satisfaction of obligations under our revolving credit facility. As a result, we may in the future modify our underwriting review processes if permitted under our borrowing arrangements.

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The table below provides the discount rate used to estimate the fair value of our portfolio of life insurance policies for the period ending:

September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013
11.56%	11.69%

The change in the discount rate incorporates current information about discount rates applied by other reporting companies owning portfolios of life insurance policies, discount rates observed in the life insurance secondary market, market interest rates, the credit exposure to the issuing insurance companies and our estimate of the risk premium a purchaser would require to receive the future cash flows derived from our portfolio of life insurance policies. Because we use the discount rate to arrive at the fair value of our portfolio, the rate we choose necessarily assumes an orderly and arms-length transaction (i.e., a non-distressed transaction in which neither seller nor buyer is compelled to engage in the transaction).

We engaged a third party, Model Actuarial Pricing Systems (MAPS), to prepare a third-party valuation of our life settlement portfolio. MAPS owns and maintains the portfolio pricing software we use. MAPS processed policy data, future premium data, life expectancy estimate data, and other actuarial information we supply to calculate a net present value for our portfolio using the specified discount rate of 11.56%. MAPS independently calculated the net present value of our portfolio of 289 policies to be \$276,381,979, which is the same fair value estimate we used on the balance sheet as of September 30, 2014, and furnished us with a letter documenting its calculation. A copy of such letter is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

**JOBS Act**

On April 5, 2012, the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012, or JOBS Act, was enacted. Section 107 of the JOBS Act provides that an emerging growth company can take advantage of the extended transition period provided in Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act of 1933 for complying with new or revised accounting standards. This means that an emerging growth company can make an election to delay the adoption

of certain accounting standards until those standards would apply to private companies. We have elected to delay such adoption of new or revised accounting standards and, as a result, we may not comply with new or revised accounting standards at the same time as other public reporting companies that are not emerging growth companies. This exemption will apply for a period of five years following our first sale of common equity securities under an effective registration statement or until we no longer qualify as an emerging growth company as defined under the JOBS Act, whichever is earlier.

### ***Deferred Income Taxes***

FASB ASC 740, Income Taxes, requires us to recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences attributable to temporary differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. A valuation allowance is established for any portion of deferred tax assets that is not considered more likely than not to be realized.

We have provided a valuation allowance against the deferred tax asset related to a note receivable because we believe that, when realized for tax purposes, it will result in a capital loss that will not be utilized because we have no expectation of generating a capital gain within the applicable carryforward period. Therefore, we do not believe that it is more likely than not that the deferred tax asset will be realized.

We have also provided a valuation allowance against the deferred tax asset related to a tax basis capital loss generated with respect to its settlement and subsequent disposal of our investment in Athena Structured Funds PLC (see Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements Note 10). As we have no expectation of generating capital gains within the applicable carry-forward period, we do not believe that it is more likely than not that the deferred asset will be realized.

A valuation allowance is required to be recognized to reduce deferred tax assets to an amount that is more likely than not to be realized. Realization of deferred tax assets depends upon having sufficient past or future taxable income in periods to which the deductible temporary differences are expected to be recovered

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or within any applicable carryback or carryforward periods. We believe that it is more likely than not that we will be able to realize all of our deferred tax assets other than that which is expected to result in a capital loss.

### ***Deferred Financing and Issuance Costs***

Financing costs incurred to obtain financing under the revolving credit facility have been capitalized and are amortized using the straight-line method over the term of the revolving credit facility. The Series I Secured note obligations are reported net of issuance costs, sales commissions and other direct expenses, which are amortized using the interest method over the term of each respective borrowing. The Renewable Secured Debentures are reported net of issuance costs, sales commissions and other direct expenses, which are amortized using the interest method over the term of each respective borrowing. The Series A preferred stock is reported net of issuance costs, sales commissions, including the fair value of warrants issued, and other direct expenses, which are amortized using the interest method as interest expense over the three-year redemption period.

### **Principal Revenue and Expense Items**

We earn revenues from three primary sources as described below.

*Policy Benefits Realized.* We recognize the difference between the death benefits and carrying values of the policy when an insured event has occurred and we determine that settlement and ultimate collection of the death benefits is realizable and reasonably assured. Revenue from a transaction must meet both criteria in order to be recognized. We generally collect the face value of the life insurance policy from the insurance company within 45 days of the insured's mortality.

*Change in Fair Value of Life Insurance Policies.* We have elected to carry our investments in life insurance policies at fair value in accordance with ASC 325-30, *Investments in Life Insurance Contracts*. Accordingly, we value our investments in our portfolio of life insurance policies each reporting period in accordance with the fair value principles discussed herein, which includes the expected payment of premiums for future periods.

*Sale of a Life Insurance Policy or a Portfolio of Life Insurance Policies.* In an event of a sale of a policy, we recognize gain or loss as the difference between the sale price and the carrying value of the policy on the date of the receipt of payment on such sale.

Our main components of expense are summarized below.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* We recognize and record expenses incurred in the operations of the purchasing and servicing of life insurance policies. These expenses include professional fees, salaries, and sales and marketing expenditures.

*Interest Expense.* We recognize and record interest expenses associated with the costs of financing our life insurance portfolio for the current period. These expenses include interest paid to our senior lender under our revolving credit facility, as well as all interest paid on our debentures and other outstanding indebtedness such as our subsidiary secured notes and dividends on convertible, redeemable preferred stock. When we issue long-term indebtedness, we amortize the issuance costs associated with such indebtedness over the outstanding term of the financing, and classify it as interest expense.

## **Results of Operations 2013 Compared to 2012**

The following is our analysis of the results of operations for the periods indicated below. This analysis should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes.

*Revenue.* Revenue recognized from the receipt of policy benefits was \$12,036,000 and \$6,283,000 in 2013 and 2012, respectively. Revenue recognized from the change in fair value of our life insurance policies, net of premiums and carrying costs, was \$17,478,000 in 2013 and \$11,154,000 in 2012. That portion of the change in fair value related to new policies acquired during 2013 and 2012 was \$27,475,000 and \$12,242,000,

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respectively. In each case, the increases in fair value were due to changes in the discount rates we applied to calculate the net present value of cash flows expected from our portfolio of life insurance policies, change in fair value of policies acquired during the period, and aging of the policies. The discount rate incorporates current information about market interest rates, credit exposure to the insurance companies that issued the life insurance policies in our portfolio and our estimate of the risk premium an investor would require to receive the future cash flows from our portfolio of life insurance policies. The discount rate applied to estimate the fair value of the portfolio of life insurance policies we own was 11.69% as of December 31, 2013, compared to 12.08% for the same date in 2012. The decrease in discount rate was due to an increase in the size of the portfolio and the diversity of policies held in our portfolio of life insurance policies that resulted in a lower anticipated risk premium to a potential buyer. The carrying value of policies acquired during each quarterly reporting period are adjusted to their current fair value using the fair value discount rate applied to the entire portfolio as of that reporting date.

*Gain Upon Termination of Agreement with Athena Securities Ltd.* In June 2013, we entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Athena Securities Ltd. and Athena Securities Group Ltd. This agreement effected the termination of an earlier agreement that the parties had entered into in 2011. That 2011 agreement had contemplated cooperative efforts by the parties aimed at developing a security and related offering in Europe or Ireland, the proceeds of which would be used to finance the acquisition of life-insurance related assets in the United States. We sought to terminate the 2011 agreement due to a changing regulatory environment in Europe that negatively affected the likelihood of consummating the contemplated offering of securities, and due to our dissatisfaction with Athena's performance under the 2011 agreement. Accordingly, the June 2013 agreement contained mutual general releases of claims and substantially unwound certain capital stock transactions that had been effected under the earlier agreement. In particular, Athena returned to us for redemption 865,000 shares of our common stock, and retained 124,000 common shares in recognition of their earlier efforts under the 2011 agreement. For our part, we sold back to Athena Securities Group Ltd. all of our ownership in Athena Structured Funds, PLC that we had originally acquired under the 2011 agreement. As a result of the termination effected by our June 2013 agreement with Athena and our re-acquisition of 865,000 shares of our common stock, we recorded a non-cash gain on the transaction of \$3,252,000. Presently, we have no ongoing business relationship with Athena.

*Expenses.* Interest expense, including amortization of the deferred financing costs and preferred stock dividends, was \$20,763,000 during 2013 compared to \$10,879,000 during 2012, an increase of \$9,884,000. The increase was due to increased average debt outstanding and increased issuance costs being amortized during 2013. Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$10,323,000, and \$6,467,000 for 2013 and 2012, respectively, representing an increase of \$3,856,000. Employee compensation and benefits increased by \$2,140,000. This increase partially resulted from \$825,000 in bonuses paid to the original members of the Company (prior to its conversion to a corporation) equal to the tax effect of the conversion from an LLC to a corporation, and a \$449,000 increase related to the implementation of a new incentive compensation plan. Legal expenses increased by \$745,000 due in part to increased compliance work. Sales and marketing expenses increased by \$971,000 due to increased activity related to our public offering of Renewable Secured Debentures and increased effort at procuring life insurance policies for our investment portfolio.

*Income Tax Expense.* Income tax expense was \$2,174,000 and \$1,193,000 in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The effective tax rate for the 12 months ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, was 109.8% and 661.8%, respectively, compared to a statutory rate of 40.5%. In 2013 and 2012, there were significant permanent differences between income before income taxes and taxable income. The primary permanent differences between our effective tax rate and the statutory federal rate result from the accrual of preferred stock dividend expense, state taxes, and other non-deductible expenses. The dividends charged to interest expense were \$2,528,000 and \$2,227,000 in 2013 and 2012, respectively. Excluding the impact of the dividends and other permanent differences, the effective tax rate for 2013 and 2012 would have been 40.5%.

The most significant temporary differences between GAAP net income and taxable net income are the treatment of interest costs with respect to the acquisition of the life insurance policies and revenue recognition with respect to the mark-to-market of life insurance portfolio.

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### **Results of Operations Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 Compared to the Same Period in 2013**

The following is our analysis of the results of operations for the periods indicated below. This analysis should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes.

*Revenue.* Revenue recognized from the receipt of policy benefits was \$2,070,000 and \$2,301,000 during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively. Revenue recognized from the receipt of policy benefits was \$3,668,000 and \$11,396,000 during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively. Revenue recognized from the change in fair value of our life insurance policies, net of premiums and carrying costs, was \$3,049,000 and \$13,819,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively and \$1,769,000 and \$10,115,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively. During the nine-month period ended September 30, 2013, we purchased a higher volume of life insurance policies than we did during the same period in 2014. The change in fair value related to new policies acquired during the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2014 was \$964,000 and \$7,523,000 respectively, and \$6,732,000 and \$19,762,000 for those acquired during the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2013, respectively. In each case, the increases in fair value were due to changes in the discount rates we use to calculate the net present value of cash flows expected from our portfolio of life insurance policies, change in fair value of policies acquired during the period, and aging of the policies. The discount rate incorporates current information about discount rates applied by other reporting companies owning portfolios of life insurance policies, discount rates observed in the life insurance secondary market, market interest rates, the credit exposure to the insurance company that issued the life insurance policy and management's estimate of the risk premium a purchaser would require to receive the future cash flows derived from our portfolio of life insurance policies. The discount rate used to estimate the fair value of the life insurance policies we own was 11.56% as of September 30, 2014, compared to 11.77% as of September 30, 2013. The decrease in discount rate was due to changes in a variety of factors in our fair value methodology. The carrying value of policies acquired during each quarterly reporting period are adjusted to their current fair value using the fair value discount rate applied to the portfolio as of that reporting date.

*Expenses.* Interest expense, including amortization of the deferred financing costs as well as preferred stock dividends, were \$6,797,000 and \$19,731,000 during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, compared to \$5,537,000 and \$14,946,000 during the same periods of 2013, increases of \$1,260,000 and \$4,785,000, respectively. The increase was due to the increased debt outstanding that increased from \$225,362,000 at September 30, 2013 to \$280,438,000 at September 30, 2014, principally to fund acquisition of policies, make premium payments, pay interest and principal on the outstanding debt, and fund operating expenses. Selling, general, and administrative expenses were \$3,590,000 and \$8,430,000 during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, compared to \$2,276,000 and \$8,191,000 during the same periods of 2013, an increase of \$1,314,000 and \$239,000, respectively. The third quarter of 2014 over the same quarter of 2013 selling, general and administrative expenses increase was due to \$277,000 increase of employee expenses, \$339,000 increase in legal and professional fees, and \$698,000 increase in marketing, recruiting and other fees.

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*Income Tax Expense.* For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, we had a loss of \$3,400,000 and \$7,888,000 before income taxes and recorded income tax benefit of \$1,858,000 and \$4,130,000, respectively, or 35.3% and 34.4%, respectively. In the same periods of 2013, we recorded income tax benefit of \$657,000 (or 28.7% of income before taxes) and income tax expense of \$1,711,000 (or 89.8% of income before taxes). The primary differences between our effective tax rate and the statutory federal rate are the accrual of preferred stock dividend expense, state taxes, and other non-deductible expenses. Excluding the impact of the dividends and other permanent differences, the effective tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013 would have been 43.8% and 40.5%, respectively.

The following table provides a reconciliation of our income tax expense at the statutory federal tax rate to our actual income tax expense:

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	Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		Three Months Ended September 30, 2013		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014	
Statutory federal income tax	\$ (1,788,000)	34.0%	\$ (4,086,000)	34.0%	\$ 777,000	34.0%	\$ (648,000)	34.0%
State income taxes, net of federal benefit	(297,000)	5.6%	(649,000)	5.4%	105,000	4.6%	(251,000)	13.2%
Series A preferred stock dividends	216,000	(4.1)%	650,000	(5.4)%	(215,000)	(9.4)%	(645,000)	33.9%
Other permanent differences	11,000	(0.2)%	(45,000)	0.4%	(10,000)	(0.5)%	(167,000)	8.7%
Total income tax expense	\$ (1,858,000)	35.3%	\$ (4,130,000)	34.4%	\$ 657,000	28.7%	\$ (1,711,000)	89.8%

The most significant temporary differences between GAAP net income and taxable net income are the treatment of interest costs with respect to the acquisition of the life insurance policies and revenue recognition with respect to the mark-to-market of life insurance portfolio.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

We finance our business through a combination of policy benefit revenues, origination fees, equity offerings, debt offerings, and a credit facility. We have used our debt offerings and credit facility primarily for policy acquisition, policy servicing and portfolio related financing expenditures. We charge an intercompany origination fee in the amount of one to four percent of the face value of a life insurance policy's benefit when we acquire the related life insurance policy. The origination fee we charge is included in the total purchase price we pay for a life insurance policy for purposes of our valuation and expected internal rate of return calculations, but is not netted against the purchase price we pay to a seller of an insurance policy. We generated cash flows of \$153,000 and \$1,462,000 from origination fees during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, and \$1,004,000 and \$2,818,000 during the same periods in 2013. Profit from intra-company origination fees for life insurance policies retained by the Company are eliminated from our consolidated statements of operations. As such, the origination fees collected under our life insurance policy financing arrangements are reflected in our consolidated statements of cash flows as cash flows from financing activities as they are received from borrowings used to finance the acquisition of life insurance policies. Our revolving bank line allows DLP II to borrow the funds necessary to pay origination fees to GWG Life. Our borrowing agreements allow us to use net proceeds of the Renewable Secured Debentures for policy acquisition, which includes origination fees. If the policy acquisition is not financed, no fees are included in the consolidated cash flows. See *Cash Flows* below for further information. We determine the purchase price of life insurance policies in accordance with ASC 325-30, *Investments in Insurance Contracts*, using the fair value method. Under the fair value method, the initial investment is recorded at the transaction price. Because the origination fees are paid from a wholly owned subsidiary to the parent company, these fees are not included in the transaction price as reflected in our consolidated financial statements. For further discussion on our accounting policies for life

settlements, please refer to note 1 to our consolidated financial statements.

As of September 30, 2014, we had approximately \$41.1 million in combined available cash and available borrowing base surplus capacity under our revolving credit facility for the purpose of purchasing additional life insurance policies, paying premiums on existing policies, paying portfolio servicing expenses, and paying principal and interest on our outstanding financing obligations.

As of December 31, 2013, we had approximately \$43.2 million in combined available cash and available borrowing base surplus capacity under our revolving credit facility for the purpose of purchasing additional life insurance policies, paying premiums on existing policies, paying portfolio servicing expenses, and paying principal and interest on our outstanding financing obligations.

In September 2012, we concluded a Series A preferred stock offering, receiving an aggregate \$24.6 million in subscriptions for our Series A preferred stock. These subscriptions consisted of \$14.0 million in

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conversions of outstanding Series I Secured notes and \$10.6 million of new investments. We have used the proceeds from the sale of our Series A preferred stock, together with the origination fees we received to purchase and finance life insurance policies to fund our operational expenditures.

In June 2011, we registered a \$250.0 million debt offering of our Renewable Secured Debentures with the SEC. The registration became effective on January 31, 2012. Through September 30, 2014, the total amount of Renewable Secured Debentures sold, including renewals, is \$225.0 million. As of September 30, 2014, we had approximately \$173.2 million in principal amount of Renewable Secured Debentures outstanding.

On September 24, 2014, GWG consummated an initial public offering of its common stock which resulted in the sale of 800,000 shares of common stock at \$12.50 per share. The sale resulted in net proceeds of approximately \$9.03 million after the deduction of underwriting commissions, discounts and expense reimbursements. The company intends to use the net proceeds from the offering to promote and advertise the opportunities for consumers owning life insurance and investors to profit from participating in the secondary market for life insurance policies, purchase additional life insurance policies in the secondary market, pay premiums on the company's life insurance policy assets, fund its portfolio operations, and for working capital purposes.

Additionally, our wholly owned subsidiary GWG Life issued Series I Secured notes beginning in November 2009 on a private placement basis to accredited investors only. As of September 30, 2014, we had approximately \$28.2 million in principal amount of Series I Secured notes outstanding. This offering was closed in November 2011.

The weighted-average interest rate of our outstanding Series I Secured notes as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013 was 8.37% and 8.35%, respectively, and the weighted average maturity at those dates was 1.92 and 2.49 years, respectively. The Series I Secured notes have renewal features. Since we first issued our Series I Secured notes, we have experienced \$131,774,000 in maturities, of which as of September 30, 2014, \$102,260,000 has renewed for an additional term. This has provided us with an aggregate renewal rate of approximately 78% for investments in our subsidiary secured notes. Future contractual maturities of Series I Secured notes payable at September 30, 2014 are:

**Years Ending December 31,**

Three months ending December 31, 2014	\$ 1,925,000
2015	12,729,000
2016	8,217,000
2017	4,427,000
2018	754,000
Thereafter	141,000
	<b>\$28,193,000</b>

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The weighted-average interest rate of our outstanding Renewable Secured Debentures as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013 was 7.49% and 7.53%, respectively, and the weighted average maturity at those dates was 3.50 and 3.69 years, respectively. Our Renewable Secured Debentures have renewal features. Since we first issued our Renewable Secured Debentures, we have experienced \$51,493,000 in maturities, of which as of September 30, 2014, \$34,105,000 has renewed for an additional term. This has provided us with an aggregate renewal rate of approximately 66% for investments in our Renewable Secured Debentures. Future contractual maturities of Renewable Secured Debentures at September 30, 2014 are:

### Years Ending December 31,

Three months ending December 31, 2014	\$ 16,086,000
2015	55,676,000
2016	43,434,000
2017	21,950,000
2018	10,730,000
Thereafter	25,369,000
	<b>\$ 173,245,000</b>

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The Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes are secured by all our assets, and are subordinate to our revolving credit facility with Autobahn/DZ Bank. The Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes are pari passu with respect to our assets pursuant to an intercreditor agreement (see notes 7 and 8 to our consolidated financial statements).

We maintain a \$100 million revolving credit facility with Autobahn/DZ Bank through GWG Life's wholly owned subsidiary DLP II. As of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013 we had \$79.0 million outstanding under the revolving credit facility and maintained an available borrowing base surplus of \$11.6 and \$3.9 million, respectively (see note 6 to our consolidated financial statements).

We expect to meet our ongoing operational capital needs through a combination of policy benefit revenues, origination fees, and proceeds from financing transactions. We expect to meet our policy acquisition, servicing, and financing capital needs principally from the receipt of policy benefit revenues from our portfolio of life insurance policies, net proceeds from our offering of Renewable Secured Debentures, and from our revolving credit facility. Because we only receive origination fees when we purchase a policy, our receipt of those fees is contingent upon our consummation of policy purchases, which is, in turn, contingent upon our receipt of external funding. Despite recent adverse capital market conditions, including a prolonged credit crisis, we have demonstrated continued access to credit and financing markets. Furthermore, we expect that the insurance benefit payments, to be received on our portfolio of life insurance policies, to increase as the average age of the insureds increase and mortality events occur over time which we expect to begin more significantly in 2015 and steadily increasing until 2018. As a result of the foregoing, we estimate that our liquidity and capital resources are sufficient for our current and projected financial needs. Nevertheless, if we are unable to continue our offering of Renewable Secured Debentures for any reason (or if we become unsuccessful in selling debentures), and we are unable to obtain capital from other sources, we expect that our business would be materially and adversely affected. In addition, our business would be materially and adversely affected if we did not receive the policy benefits we forecast and if holders of our Renewable Secured Debentures or Series I Secured notes failed to renew with the frequency we have historically experienced. In such a case, we could be forced to sell our investments in life insurance policies to service or satisfy our debt-related obligations and continue to pay policy premiums.

Capital expenditures have historically not been material and we do not anticipate making material capital expenditures in 2014 or beyond.

### *Debt Financings Summary*

We had the following outstanding debt balances as of September 30, 2014:

Issuer/Borrower	Principal Amount Outstanding	Weighted Average Interest Rate
GWG Holdings, Inc. Renewable Secured Debentures	\$ 173,245,000	7.49%

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Issuer/Borrower	Principal Amount Outstanding	Weighted Average Interest Rate
GWG Life Settlements, LLC Series I Secured notes	28,193,000	8.37%
GWG DLP Funding II, LLC Revolving credit facility	79,000,000	6.22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$280,438,000</b>	<b>7.22%</b>

Our total credit facility and other indebtedness balance as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013 was \$280,438,000 and \$243,635,000, respectively. At September 30, 2014, the total outstanding face amount under our Series I Secured notes outstanding was \$28,193,000, less unamortized selling costs of \$491,000, resulting in a carrying amount of \$27,702,000. At December 31, 2013, the total outstanding face amount under our Series I Secured notes outstanding was \$29,744,000, less unamortized selling costs of \$469,000, resulting in a carrying amount of \$29,275,000. At September 30, 2014, the total outstanding face amount of Renewable Secured Debentures was \$173,245,000 plus \$1,679,000 of subscriptions in process, less unamortized selling costs of \$5,737,000, resulting in a carrying amount of \$169,187,000. At December 31, 2013, the total outstanding face amount of Renewable Secured Debentures outstanding was \$134,891,000 plus \$1,902,000 of subscriptions in process, less unamortized selling costs of \$5,147,000, resulting in a carrying

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amount of \$131,646,000. At September 30, 2014, the fair value of our investments in life insurance policies of \$276,382,000 plus our cash balance of \$29,512,000 and our restricted cash balance of \$2,145,000, totaled \$308,039,000, representing an excess of portfolio assets over secured indebtedness of \$27,601,000. At December 31, 2013, the fair value of our investments in life insurance policies of \$234,673,000 plus our cash balance of \$33,450,000 and our restricted cash balance of \$5,833,000, totaled \$273,956,000, representing an excess of portfolio assets over secured indebtedness of \$30,321,000. The Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes are secured by all our assets and are subordinate to our revolving credit facility with Autobahn/DZ Bank. The Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes are pari passu with respect to shared collateral pursuant to an intercreditor agreement.

The following forward-looking table seeks to illustrate the impact of the sale of our portfolio of life insurance assets at various discount rates in order to satisfy our debt obligations as of September 30, 2014. In all cases, the sale of the life insurance assets owned by DLP II will be used first to satisfy all amounts owing under the revolving credit facility with Autobahn/ DZ Bank. The net sale proceeds remaining after satisfying all obligations under the revolving credit facility would be applied to Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes on a pari passu basis.

Portfolio Discount Rate	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%
Value of portfolio	\$298,167,000	\$283,889,000	\$270,713,000	\$258,529,000	\$247,240,000
and cash equivalents	31,657,000	31,657,000	31,657,000	31,657,000	31,657,000
Life insurance assets	329,824,000	315,546,000	302,370,000	290,186,000	278,897,000
Revolving credit facility Autobahn/DZ Bank	79,000,000	79,000,000	79,000,000	79,000,000	79,000,000
Remaining after revolving credit facility	250,824,000	236,546,000	223,370,000	211,186,000	199,897,000
Series I Secured notes and Renewable Secured Debentures	201,438,000	201,438,000	201,438,000	201,438,000	201,438,000
Remaining after Series I Secured notes and Renewable Secured Debentures	\$ 49,386,000	\$ 35,108,000	\$ 21,932,000	\$ 9,748,000	\$ (1,541,000)
Impairment to Series I Secured notes and Renewable Secured Debentures	No impairment	No impairment	No impairment	No impairment	Impairment

The table illustrates that our ability to fully satisfy amounts owing under the Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes would likely be impaired upon the sale of all our life insurance assets at a price equivalent to a discount rate of approximately 13.86% or higher. The discount rates used to calculate the fair value of our portfolio for mark-to-market accounting were 11.56% and 11.69% as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively. The table does not include any allowance for transactional fees and expenses associated with a portfolio sale (which expenses and fees could be substantial), and is provided to demonstrate how various discount rates used to value our portfolio could



affect our ability to satisfy amounts owing under our debt obligations, in light of our senior secured lender's right to priority payments. You should read the above table in conjunction with the information contained in other sections of this report, including our discussion of discount rates included under the Critical Accounting Policies Valuation of Insurance Policies caption above. This discussion and analysis is based on the beliefs of our management, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, our management. The forward-looking presentation above is subject to numerous risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those suggested or implied by the above table. Please see the caption Risk Relating to Forward-Looking Statements above. Bond offering, a pending amendment to the indenture will rename our outstanding Renewable Secured Debentures as L Bonds.

### Cash Flows

The payment of premiums and servicing costs to maintain life insurance policies represents our most significant requirement for cash disbursement. When a policy is purchased, we are able to calculate the minimum premium payments required to maintain the policy in-force. Over time as the insured ages, premium payments will increase; however, the probability of actually needing to pay the premiums decreases since mortality becomes more likely. These scheduled premiums and associated probabilities are factored into our

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expected internal rate of return and cash-flow modeling described herein. Beyond premiums, we incur policy servicing costs, including annual trustee and tracking costs, and debt servicing costs, including principal and interest payments. Until we receive a stable amount of proceeds from the policy benefits, we intend to pay these costs from our credit facility, when permitted, and through the issuance of debt securities, including the L Bonds.

For the quarter end dates set forth below, the following table illustrates the total amount of face value of policy benefits owned, and the trailing 12 months of life insurance policy benefits collected and premiums paid on our portfolio. The trailing 12-month benefits/premium coverage ratio indicates the ratio of policy benefits received to premiums paid over the trailing 12-month period from our portfolio of life insurance policies.

<u>Quarter End Date</u>	<u>Portfolio Face Amount</u>	<u>12-Month Trailing Benefits Collected</u>	<u>12-Month Trailing Premiums Paid</u>	<u>12-Month Trailing Benefits/Premium Coverage Ratio</u>
March 31, 2012	\$482,455,000	\$ 4,203,000	\$ 14,977,000	28.06%
June 30, 2012	489,255,000	8,703,000	15,412,000	56.47%
September 30, 2012	515,661,000	7,833,000	15,837,000	49.46%
December 31, 2012	572,245,000	7,350,000	16,597,000	44.28%
March 31, 2013	639,755,000	11,350,000	18,044,000	62.90%
June 30, 2013	650,655,000	13,450,000	19,182,000	70.11%
September 30, 2013	705,069,000	18,450,000	20,279,000	90.98%
December 31, 2013	740,648,000	16,600,000	21,733,000	76.38%
March 31, 2014	771,940,000	12,600,000	21,930,000	57.46%
June 30, 2014	784,652,000	6,300,000	22,598,000	27.88%
September 30, 2014	787,964,000	4,300,000	23,121,000	18.60%

We believe that the portfolio cash flow results set forth above represent our general investment thesis: that the life insurance policy benefits we receive will continue to increase over time in relation to the premiums we are required to pay on the remaining policies in the portfolio. Nevertheless, we expect that our portfolio cash flow results will remain inconsistent until such time we achieve our goal of acquiring a larger, more diversified portfolio of life insurance policies in order to obtain more normalized actuarial results. For example, we had expected to receive a greater amount of insurance benefits for the periods ended December 31, 2013 and September 30, 2014 than we actually experienced. As our receipt of life insurance policy benefits increase, we expect to begin servicing and paying down our outstanding indebtedness, or alternatively

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purchasing additional life insurance policies, from these cash flows. As indicated above under Liquidity and Capital Resources, we presently expect that in 2015, the cash inflows from the receipt of policy benefits will exceed the 2015 premium obligations on the remaining life insurance policies held within the portfolio as of September 30, 2014.

The amount of payments for anticipated premiums and servicing costs that we will be required to make over the next five years to maintain our current portfolio, assuming no mortalities, is set forth in the table below.

Year	Premiums and Servicing
Three months ending December 31, 2014	\$ 6,711,000
2015	27,075,000
2016	29,701,000
2017	33,176,000
2018	36,100,000
Total	\$132,763,000

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The life insurance policies owned by DLP II are subject to a collateral arrangement with the agent to our revolving credit lender, as described in note 6 to the consolidated financial statements. Under this arrangement, collection and escrow accounts are used to fund purchases and premiums of the insurance policies and to pay interest and other charges under our revolving credit facility. The lender and its agent must authorize all disbursements from these accounts, including any distributions to GWG Life or GWG Holdings. Distributions are limited to an amount that would result in the borrowers (DLP II, GWG Life, and GWG Holdings) realizing an annualized rate of return on the equity funded amount for such assets of not more than 18%, as determined by the agent. After such amount is reached, the credit agreement requires that excess funds be used to fund repayments or a reserve account in a certain amount before any additional distributions may be made. In the future, these arrangements may restrict the cash flows available for payment of principal and interest on our debt obligations.

### **Inflation**

Changes in inflation do not necessarily correlate with changes in interest rates. We presently do not foresee any material impact of inflation on our results of operations in the periods presented in our consolidated financial statements.

### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

*Operating Lease* We entered into an office lease with U.S. Bank National Association as the landlord. The lease was effective April 22, 2012 with a term through August 31, 2015. The lease is for 11,695 square feet of office space located at 220 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. We are obligated to pay base rent plus common area maintenance and a share of the building operating costs. Minimum lease payments under the lease are as follows:

Three months ending December 31, 2014	\$26,000
2015	70,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$96,000</b>

### **Credit Risk**

We review the credit risk associated with our portfolio of life insurance policies when estimating its fair value. In evaluating the policies' credit risk we consider insurance company solvency, credit risk indicators, economic conditions, ongoing credit evaluations, and company positions. We attempt to manage our credit risk related to life insurance policies typically by purchasing policies issued only from companies with an

investment grade credit rating by either Standard & Poor's, Moody's, or A.M. Best Company. As of September 30, 2014, 99.08% of our life insurance policies, by face value benefits, were issued by companies that maintained an investment grade rating (BBB or better) by Standard & Poor's.

### **Interest Rate Risk**

Our credit facility is floating-rate financing. In addition, our ability to offer interest rates that attract capital (including in the offer and sale of Renewable Secured Debentures) is generally impacted by prevailing interest rates. Furthermore, while our other indebtedness provides us with fixed-rate financing, our debt coverage ratio is calculated in relation to our total cost of financing. Therefore, fluctuations in interest rates impact our business by increasing our borrowing costs, and reducing availability under our debt financing arrangements. Furthermore, we calculate our portfolio earnings based upon the spread generated between the return on our life insurance portfolio and the cost of our financing. As a result, increases in interest rates will reduce the earnings we expect to achieve from our investments in life insurance policies.

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#### **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

We use non-GAAP financial measures when evaluating our financial results, for planning and forecasting purposes, and for maintaining compliance with covenants contained in our borrowing agreements. Non-GAAP financial measures disclosed by management are provided as additional information to investors in order to provide them with an alternative method for assessing our financial condition and operating results. These non-GAAP financial measures are not in accordance with GAAP and may be different from non-GAAP measures used by other companies, including other companies within our industry. This presentation of non-GAAP financial information is not meant to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for comparable amounts prepared in accordance with GAAP. See the notes to our consolidated financial statements and our audited financial statements contained herein.

We have elected to carry our investments in life insurance policies at fair value in accordance with ASC 325-30, *Investments in Life Insurance Contracts*. Accordingly, we value our investments in life insurance policies at the conclusion of each reporting period in accordance with GAAP fair value accounting principles. In addition to GAAP, we are required to report non-GAAP financial measures to Autobahn/DZ Bank under certain financial covenants made to that lender under our revolving credit facility. As indicated above, we also use non-GAAP financial reporting to manage and evaluate the financial performance of our business.

The election to record our investments in life insurance policies at fair value, which by its nature, is based upon Level 3 measurements that are unobservable. As a result, this accounting treatment imports financial market volatility and subjective inputs into our financial reporting. We believe this type of accounting reporting is at odds with one of the key attractions for purchasing and owning a portfolio life insurance policies: the non-correlated nature of the returns to be derived from such policies. Therefore, in contrast to a GAAP-based fair valuation, we seek to measure the accrual of the actuarial gain occurring within the portfolio of life insurance policies at their expected internal rate of return based on statistical mortality probabilities for the insureds (using primarily the insured's age, sex and smoking status). The expected internal rate of return tracks actuarial gain occurring within the policies according to a mortality table as the insureds' age increases. By comparing the actuarial gain accruing within our portfolio of life insurance policies against our costs during the same period, we can estimate, manage and evaluate the overall financial profitability of our business without regard to mark-to-market volatility. We use this information to balance our life insurance policy purchasing and manage our capital structure, including the issuance of debt and utilization of our other sources of capital, and to monitor our compliance with borrowing covenants. We believe that these non-GAAP financial measures provide information that is useful for investors to understand period-over-period operating results separate and apart from fair value items that may, or could, have a disproportionately positive or negative impact on results in any particular period.

Our credit facility requires us to maintain a positive net income and tangible net worth each of which are calculated on an adjusted non-GAAP basis on the method described above, without regard to GAAP-based fair value measures. In addition, our revolving credit facility requires us to maintain an excess spread, which is the difference between (i) the weighted average of our expected internal rate of return of our portfolio of life insurance policies and (ii) the weighted average of our credit facility's interest rate. These calculations are made using non-GAAP measures in the method described below, without regard to GAAP-based fair value measures.

In addition, our Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes require us to maintain a debt coverage ratio designed to ensure that the expected cash flows from our portfolio of life insurance policies is able to adequately service our total outstanding indebtedness. In addition, our Renewable Secured Debentures requires us to maintain a subordination ratio which limits the total amount of indebtedness that can be issued senior in rank to the Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes. These ratios are calculated using non-GAAP measures in the

method described below, without regard to GAAP-based fair value measures.

*Adjusted Non-GAAP Net Income.* Our credit facility requires us to maintain a positive net income calculated on an adjusted non-GAAP basis. We calculate the adjusted net income by recognizing the actuarial gain accruing within our life insurance policies at the expected internal rate of return of the policies we own

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without regard to fair value. We net this actuarial gain against our costs during the same period to calculate our net income on a non-GAAP basis.

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
GAAP net income (loss)	\$ (3,400,000)	\$ (1,629,000)	\$ (7,888,000)	\$ 195,000
Unrealized fair value gain (1)	(8,762,000)	(6,960,000)	(30,973,000)	(25,904,000)
Adjusted cost basis increase (2)	10,982,000	9,360,000	33,156,000	28,256,000
Accrual of unrealized actuarial gain (3)	8,082,000	5,208,000	23,209,000	15,406,000
Total adjusted non-GAAP income (4)	\$ 6,902,000	\$ 5,979,000	\$ 17,504,000	\$ 17,953,000

- (1) Reversal of unrealized fair value gain of life insurance policies for current period.
- (2) Adjusted cost basis is increased to include those acquisition and servicing expenses which are not capitalized by GAAP.
- (3) Accrual of actuarial gain at expected internal rate of return based on investment cost basis for the period.
- (4) We must maintain an annual positive consolidated net income, calculated on a non-GAAP basis, to maintain compliance with our revolving credit facility with DZ Bank/Autobahn.

*Adjusted Non-GAAP Tangible Net Worth.* Our revolving credit facility requires us to maintain a tangible net worth in excess of \$15 million calculated on an adjusted non-GAAP basis. We calculate the adjusted tangible net worth by recognizing the actuarial gain accruing within our life insurance policies at the expected internal rate of return of the policies we own without regard to fair value. We net this actuarial gain against our costs during the same period to calculate our tangible net worth on a non-GAAP basis.

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
GAAP net worth (1)	\$ 20,221,000	\$ 19,231,000
Less intangible assets (2)	(8,237,000)	(6,068,000)
GAAP tangible net worth	11,984,000	13,163,000
Unrealized fair value gain (3)	(145,717,000)	(114,744,000)
Adjusted cost basis increase (4)	139,094,000	106,201,000
Accrual of unrealized actuarial gain (5)	72,875,000	49,666,000
Total adjusted non-GAAP tangible net worth (6)	\$ 78,236,000	\$ 54,286,000

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- (1) Includes termination of redeemable member's interest prior to corporate conversion and preferred stock classified as temporary equity.
  - (2) Unamortized portion of deferred financing costs and pre-paid insurance.
  - (3) Reversal of cumulative unrealized fair value gain or loss of life insurance policies.
  - (4) Adjusted cost basis is increased by acquisition and servicing expenses which are not capitalized under GAAP.
  - (5) Accrual of cumulative actuarial gain at expected internal rate of return based on investment cost basis.
  - (6) We must maintain a total adjusted non-GAAP tangible net worth of \$15 million to maintain compliance with our revolving credit facility with DZ Bank/Autobahn.

*Excess Spread.* Our revolving credit facility requires us to maintain a 2.00% excess spread between our weighted-average expected internal rate of return of our portfolio of life insurance policies and the credit facility's interest rate. A presentation of our excess spread and our total excess spread is set forth below. Management uses the total excess spread to gauge expected profitability of our investments, and uses the excess spread to monitor compliance with our borrowing.

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	<b>As of September 30, 2014</b>	<b>As of December 31, 2013</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Weighted-average expected IRR (1)	11.88%	12.21%
Weighted-average revolving credit facility interest rate (2)	6.22%	6.19%
Excess spread (3)	5.66%	6.02%
Total weighted-average interest rate on indebtedness for borrowed money (4)	7.22%	7.20%
Total excess spread	4.66%	5.01%

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- (1) This represents the weighted-average expected internal rate of return of the life insurance policies as of the measurement date based upon our investment cost basis of the insurance policies and the expected cash flows from the life insurance portfolio. Our investment cost basis is calculated as our cash investment in the life insurance policies, without regard to GAAP-based fair value measurements, and is set forth below:

	<b>As of September 30, 2014</b>	<b>As of December 31, 2013</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Investment Cost Basis</i>		
GAAP fair value	\$ 276,382,000	\$ 234,673,000
Unrealized fair value gain (A)	(145,717,000)	(114,744,000)
Adjusted cost basis increase (B)	139,094,000	106,201,000
Investment cost basis (C)	\$ 269,759,000	\$ 226,130,000

- (A) This represents the reversal of cumulative unrealized GAAP fair value gain of life insurance policies.
- (B) Adjusted cost basis is increased to include those acquisition and servicing expenses that are not capitalized by GAAP.
- (C) This is the full cash investment cost basis in life insurance policies from which our expected internal rate of return is calculated.
- (2) This is the weighted-average revolving credit relating to our revolving credit facility interest rate as of the measurement date.
- (3) We must maintain an excess spread of 2.00% relating to our revolving credit facility to maintain compliance under such facility.
- (4) Represents the weighted-average interest rate paid on all outstanding indebtedness as of the measurement date, determined as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
<i>Outstanding Indebtedness</i>		
Revolving credit facility	\$ 79,000,000	\$ 79,000,000
Series I Secured notes	28,193,000	29,744,000
Renewable Secured Debentures (1)	173,245,000	134,891,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$280,438,000</b>	<b>\$243,635,000</b>

- (1) Upon effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, all securities originally issued as Renewable Secured Debentures will be renamed L Bonds.

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2014
<i>Interest Rates on Indebtedness</i>		
Revolving credit facility	6.22%	6.19%
Series I Secured notes	8.37%	8.35%
Renewable Secured Debentures	7.49%	7.53%
Weighted-average interest rates on indebtedness	7.22%	7.20%

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*Debt Coverage Ratio and Subordination Ratio.* Our Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes require us to maintain a debt coverage ratio of less than 90%. The debt coverage ratio is calculated by dividing the sum of our total indebtedness by the sum of our cash and cash equivalents and the net present value of the life insurance portfolio. The subordination ratio for our Renewable Secured Debentures is calculated by dividing the total indebtedness that is senior to Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes by the sum of the company's cash and cash equivalents and the net present value of the life insurance portfolio. The subordination ratio must be less than 50%. For purposes of both ratio calculations, the net present value of the life insurance portfolio is calculated using a discount rate equal to the weighted average interest rate of all indebtedness.

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	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
Life insurance portfolio policy benefits	\$ 787,964,000	\$ 740,648,000
Discount rate of future cash flows	7.22%	7.20%
Net present value of Life insurance portfolio policy benefits	\$ 344,774,000	\$ 302,761,000
Cash and cash equivalents	31,657,000	39,283,000
Total Coverage	376,431,000	342,044,000
Revolving credit facility	79,000,000	79,000,000
Series I Secured notes	28,193,000	29,744,000
Renewable Secured Debentures	173,245,000	134,891,000
Total Indebtedness	\$ 280,438,000	\$ 243,635,000
Debt Coverage Ratio	74.50%	71.23%
Subordination Ratio	20.99%	23.10%

As of September 30, 2014, we were in compliance with both the debt coverage ratio and the subordination ratio as required under our related financing agreements for Renewable Secured Debentures and Series I Secured notes.

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## BUSINESS

### Overview

We provide financial solutions to consumers in the emerging secondary market for life insurance settlements. We target our financial solution offerings toward consumers owning life insurance who can benefit from realizing the actuarial value of their life insurance policy. We believe the value proposition of our services to the consumers we serve is compelling and these consumers represent the fastest growing demographic in the United States according to the U.S. Census Bureau. To address this growing need, we recently have expanded our services by offering consumers a range of options to access the actuarial value of their life insurance, including purchasing (i) all or a portion of their life insurance policy for cash, (ii) all or a portion of their life insurance policy in exchange for a different asset, and (iii) all or a portion of their life insurance policy in an installment sale that provides the selling consumer with a stream of cash flow. All of our services involve our purchase or financing of life insurance assets from consumers in the secondary market at a discount to the face value of the life insurance asset we obtain. In cases where we purchase a life insurance policy, we continue paying the policy premiums until maturity, in order to collect the policy benefit upon the insured's mortality. In this way, we hope to profit from the difference between our cost of obtaining and financing a life insurance asset, and the policy benefit we ultimately receive upon the mortality of the insured.

In addition to our goal of providing consumers with value-added services based upon the actuarial value of their life insurance policies, we seek to build a profitable and large portfolio of life insurance assets that are well diversified in terms of insurance carriers, mortality profiles and the medical conditions of insureds. We believe that successfully diversifying our assets will lower our overall risk exposure and provide our portfolio of life insurance assets with greater actuarial stability and more reliable returns. To obtain the growth and diversification we seek, we have raised capital through a variety of financing efforts that have included the private and public offerings of structured debt securities, private offerings of preferred stock, and the use of a senior secured revolving credit facility. This offering of common stock is an extension of that strategy.

As of September 30, 2014, we owned approximately \$788 million in face value of life insurance policy benefits covering 263 lives with an aggregate non-GAAP cost basis of approximately \$270 million. Aggregate cost basis includes our acquisition costs and ongoing maintenance and financing costs. We have acquired this portfolio through a combination of the issuance of debt in particular, the sale of previously issued L Bonds by GWG Holdings, the sale of Series I Secured notes by GWG Life, and the use of a senior secured revolving credit facility provided to our subsidiary GWG DLP Funding II, as borrower. Our objective is to earn returns from our life insurance assets that are greater than the costs necessary to purchase and finance those policy assets to their maturity. We expect to accomplish our objective by:

- purchasing life insurance policy assets which generate expected internal rates of returns in excess of our cost of capital;
- paying the life insurance asset's premiums and costs until the insured's mortality;
- obtaining a large and diverse portfolio of insurance policy assets to mitigate actuarial risk;
- maintaining diversified funding sources to reduce our overall cost of financing;
- maintaining rigorous portfolio monitoring and servicing practices; and
- if appropriate, engaging in hedging strategies that reduce potential volatility to our cost of financing.

We intend to apply the majority of proceeds of this offering, along with amounts we receive under arrangements with senior lenders, to expand the portfolio of insurance assets we own, and finance those assets until their maturity. See also Use of Proceeds.

In the future, we may determine to create other kinds of investment products that may relate to or be based upon, or otherwise be offered and sold for the purpose of permitting us to become involved in, industries and financing opportunities other than life insurance. Although we presently have no definitive plans

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to do this, we have begun the effort of identifying other industries that present potentially viable financing opportunities. Any decision to become involved in other industries would likely involve a separate financing effort on our part, and we would expect to leverage the network of broker-dealers that have participated in our earlier financing efforts and with whom we have developed relationships.

## **Market**

According to the American Council of Life Insurers Fact Book 2013 (ACLI), individuals owned over \$11.22 trillion of face value of life insurance policies in the United States in 2012. This figure includes all types of policies, including term and permanent insurance known as whole life, universal life, variable life, and variable universal life. The ACLI reports that the lapse and surrender rate of individual life insurance policies for 2012 was 5.9%, over \$649 billion in face value of policy benefits in 2012 alone. These figures do not include group-owned life insurance, such as employer-provided life insurance, the market for which totaled over \$8.01 trillion of face value of life insurance policies in the United States in 2012, and the policies of which exhibit similar lapse and surrender rates, according to the ACLI. Consumers owning life insurance generally allow policies to lapse or surrender the policies for a variety of reasons, including: (i) the life insurance is no longer needed; (ii) unrealistic original earnings assumptions made when the policy was purchased; (iii) increasing premium payment obligations as the insured ages; (iv) changes in financial status or outlook which cause the insured to no longer require life insurance; (v) other financial needs that make the insurance unaffordable; or (vi) a desire to maximize the policy's investment value.

The secondary market for life insurance has developed in response to the large volume of policy lapses and surrenders. Rather than allowing a policy to lapse as worthless, or surrendering a life insurance policy at a fraction of its inherent value, the secondary market can be a source of significant value to consumers. The inherent actuarial value of a policy in the life insurance secondary market often exceeds the cash surrender value offered by the insurance carrier. Life insurance companies earn substantial revenue windfalls due to the lapse and surrender of many insurance policies. These revenue windfalls have enabled life insurance companies to issue policies with reduced premiums. The profit opportunity for a purchaser of a life insurance asset in the secondary market is the difference, or spread, between (i) the cost of obtaining and maintaining a life insurance policy over the insured's lifetime, and (ii) the face value of the policy's benefit that will be paid upon the insured's mortality. The secondary market for life insurance policies has also been driven by the creation of life insurance policy pricing tools and actuarial modeling techniques developed by investors. Without the development of the secondary market, insurance carriers would maintain monopsony power over the options offered to consumers who no longer want, need or can afford their life insurance.



Although still relatively new and still emerging, Conning Research & Consulting (Conning) reports that the secondary market for life insurance policies grew from \$2 billion in face value of benefits purchased in 2002, to over \$12 billion in face value of benefits purchased in 2007. During and after the 2009 credit crisis, the secondary market for life insurance contracted significantly, evidenced by Conning's report that investors purchased approximately \$2 billion in face value of life insurance benefits in 2012. Nevertheless, Conning reports that consumer demand for continued development of the secondary market remains strong, and there are indications of strengthening interest among investors. Conning maintains that, given the current economic environment and investor sentiment, the secondary market will likely increase. We believe that the market's largest growth will likely come from companies that attract capital to purchase the assets. Conning reports that the net market potential for policies sold in the secondary market exceeded \$109 billion in 2012, and is expected to grow to \$151 billion by 2019.

We believe that socio-economic and demographic trends further support the long-term development and growth of the secondary market for life insurance, and that the secondary market for life insurance represents a significant and expanding market opportunity. According to the United States Census Bureau (Bureau) the population age 65 and older is expected to more than double between 2012 and 2060, from 43.1 million to 92.0 million. The Bureau projects that the increase in the number of the oldest old will be even more dramatic those 85 and older are projected to more than triple from 5.9 million to 18.2 million, reaching 4.3 percent of the total population. We believe that this older demographic, 85 years and older, may be particularly well served by the services we offer.

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In addition to changing demographics, we believe there is a growing need for services that address the post-retirement financial needs of consumers in general. Research published by Natixis Global Asset Management (NGAM) reports that retirees will likely be required to finance a larger portion of their retirement as the government's ability to support them fades. In response to this growing need, the States of Texas and Kentucky adopted legislation enabling individuals to help finance their long-term care needs through the value of their life insurance by allowing individuals to enter the Medicaid program so long as they use the proceeds from the sale of their life insurance policy in the secondary market for long-term care needs. Additional states are considering similar legislation to deal with the increasing costs of providing long-term care to the growing population of seniors.

As the life insurance secondary market has grown, a regulatory framework has been established to oversee the industry participants and protect consumers. Since 2007, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of states that have adopted legislation and regulations. Today, almost every state has adopted some version of model laws prohibiting business practices deemed to be abusive and generally requiring the licensing of life insurance purchasers and brokers, the filing and approval of purchase agreements, disclosure of transaction fees and periodic reporting requirements. The widespread adoption of this regulatory framework by states has brought about standardized practices and procedures for industry participants in the secondary market. In addition, several states have modified their laws to adopt notice requirements for the benefit of consumers owning life insurance, alerting them to the existence of the secondary market before they surrender their life insurance policy or allow it to lapse.

We believe the strengthened regulatory framework, along with the emergence of best practices adopted by industry participants within the life insurance secondary market, will lead to a growing awareness of the secondary market among life insurance agents and financial advisors serving the financial needs of consumers. We expect this growing awareness, along with the demographic factors described above, will lead to the continued growth of services related to the secondary market for life insurance policies.

We believe that the secondary market for life insurance policies has also attracted global investor interest because investments in life insurance policy assets can provide non-correlated investment diversification. The ability for investors to invest in the life insurance asset class comes as a result of the development of life insurance policy pricing tools and actuarial modeling techniques for valuing portfolios of life insurance policies. Standardized life insurance pricing tools and actuarial modeling software, including life expectancies, have provided foundational support for the development of services related to the life insurance secondary market. The appeal for investors to achieve non-correlated diversification appears strong, particularly after the global recession of 2008. The appeal of non-correlation is that the underlying investment return is independent of the factors contributing to economic downturns such as real estate values, commodity prices, and stock market indices. In addition, many life insurance policies represent payment obligations from highly rated life insurance companies. As a result, investors can evaluate the expected risk premium they receive for investing in the asset class as compared to the credit profile of the underlying insurance company. The risk premium offered by the asset class, along with the non-correlated return profile has attracted a large number of investors seeking investment opportunities in the life insurance secondary market. As innovation and investor awareness of the secondary market for life insurance increases, we expect continued investor interest in the asset class.

We believe that we are well positioned to capitalize on this opportunity by providing value-added services to the consumers we serve and by leveraging our retail alternative investment distribution network. To participate and compete in our growing market, we have spent and intend to continue to spend significant resources: (i) developing a robust operational platform and systems for originating, purchasing, and servicing life

insurance policies; (ii) obtaining requisite licensure to participate in the life insurance secondary market; (iii) developing financing resources, strategies, and capabilities for servicing a large portfolio of life insurance policies; (iv) recruiting and developing a professional management team; and (v) establishing strategic relationships for delivering our services.

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### **Company History**

We were founded in 2006 to develop a platform to evaluate, purchase, service, and track life insurance policies purchased in the secondary market. Our original model was to operate as a joint venture with WestLB, AG, a large German commercial bank, with the goal of having the bank securitize and sell investments in the life insurance portfolio we purchased. During 2006 and 2007, we built an institutional platform to underwrite, purchase, service, and track life insurance policies purchased in the secondary market in conjunction with a \$250 million revolving credit facility provided by WestLB. In 2008, however, WestLB informed us that they were abandoning their effort to securitize and sell investments backed by our life insurance portfolio in light of the global economic and financial crisis. This resulted in a material change to our business plan, as we had earlier purchased the portfolio of life insurance policies with the expectation these policies would be sold through a securitization organized by WestLB. Subsequently, in 2010 we sold the original portfolio that had been financed entirely by WestLB.

Since 2008, we have focused on establishing diversified funding sources whose investment expectation is based on the purchase and finance of life insurance policies to their maturity a buy-and-hold strategy as opposed to the securitized sale of those assets prior to maturity. In 2009, our subsidiary GWG Life, LLC, or GWG Life, began selling Series I Secured notes to further finance our buy-and-hold strategy. In January 2012, we registered a public offering of our previously issued L Bonds in order to continue to grow and diversify the portfolio we started acquiring with the sale of Series I Secured notes. In addition to the Series I Secured notes and previously issued L Bonds, we have utilized a \$100 million senior secured revolving credit facility provided by Autobahn Funding Company, LLC, a bank-sponsored commercial paper conduit administered by DZ Bank AG Deutsche Zentral-Genossenschaftsbank, or DZ Bank. This credit facility is provided to our wholly owned subsidiary GWG DLP Funding II, LLC, or DLP Funding II, as borrower. DLP Funding II holds title to substantially all of our life insurance assets. We expect to maintain and expand our access to credit in conjunction with the stated goal of growing and expanding our portfolio of life insurance policies through the proceeds of our common stock offering. On September 24, 2014, we consummated an initial public offering of our common stock that involved the listing of our common stock on The Nasdaq Capital Market effective September 25, 2014.

### **Our Business Model**

All of our services are premised on financial and actuarial modeling that assigns a present value to the face value of an insurance policy benefit. In this regard, the value we assign to a life insurance asset in the secondary market is primarily a function of: (i) the face value of the life insurance policy or portion thereof we may wish to acquire; (ii) the estimated life expectancy of the individual insured under the policy; (iii) the premiums expected to be paid over the life of the insured; (iv) market competition from other purchasers in the secondary market; and (v) the particular underwriting characteristics of the policy, relative to the characteristics of our portfolio of life insurance assets as a whole.

The types of policies for which we provide services are typically, but not always, universal life insurance policies. Universal life insurance is a type of permanent life insurance in which premium payments above the cost of insurance are credited to the cash value of the policy. The cash value is credited each month with interest based on the terms of the insurance policy agreement. If a universal life insurance policy were to lapse, the insured or other owner of the policy would nonetheless have a right to receive the cash surrender value of the policy. The cash surrender value is the cash value of the policy, less any surrender charges imposed by the insurance company for removing the cash value. Our services provide greatest value to a consumer when the actuarial value of the life insurance policy benefit exceeds the cash surrender value of the policy which is often the case. We also provide services to consumers who own term life insurance. Unlike permanent universal life insurance, term life insurance does not have a cash value associated with it. Nevertheless, most term insurance policies permit the policy to be converted into permanent universal life insurance. In the future, we may consider offering services in conjunction with variable universal life insurance, which differs from universal insurance in that the variable component of the policy involves the ownership of securities inside the policy. Regardless of the type of policy, we generally seek to purchase life insurance policies issued by rated life insurance carriers with investment grade credit ratings by Standard &

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Poor s (AAA through BBB), Moody&#146