

NLV Financial Corporation and Subsidiaries

**Quarterly Performance Review and
Consolidated Financial Statements**

Third Quarter 2020

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

About the Company

NLV Financial Corporation (“NLVF”) through its subsidiaries (collectively, the “Company”, “we”, “our”) offers life insurance policies, annuity contracts, and investment products and services. The Company’s primary insurance subsidiaries are National Life Insurance Company (“NLIC”), a Vermont-domiciled life insurer, and Life Insurance Company of the Southwest (“LSW”), a Texas-domiciled life insurer. Together with their affiliates, NLIC and LSW operate as a unified organization under the trade name of National Life Group.

National Life Group’s leading life insurance product lines include indexed universal life, whole life, term life, and universal life. We offer a wide array of options and riders in connection with these policies to provide additional features such as accelerated benefits, waiver of premium, accidental death benefits, paid up additions, supplemental term insurance and lifetime income.

National Life Group’s leading annuity product lines are indexed annuities and fixed interest rate annuities. We offer a guaranteed lifetime income rider on our indexed annuity products, which allows the contract holder the option to elect a guaranteed annual income that is fixed and will continue for the remaining life of the contract holder, even if the annuity’s account value reaches zero. National Life Group also offers variable annuities, but does not offer, and has never offered, guaranteed minimum withdrawal, accumulation or income benefits on our variable annuities. A return of premium guaranteed minimum death benefit is the only guarantee currently offered on our variable annuity products.

For indexed life and annuity products, indexed interest, if any, is credited based on the change in an equity index over a specified period, subject to a cap rate, a participation rate and a floor of zero percent. Indexed products also offer the contract holder the option of selecting a guaranteed fixed interest rate instead of indexed interest.

Distribution

National Life Group provides a broad range of life insurance and annuity products to a national client base, primarily through an extensive network of independent agents and affiliated agents. We focus on serving Middle America in our target market of customers with household income of between \$75,000 and \$150,000, offering products with benefits that help Middle America customers meet needs during their lifetime, including lifetime income in retirement and accelerated death benefits if the insured becomes terminally, chronically or critically ill. In our individual annuity business, we focus on the 403(b) K-12 educator market. National Life Group also provides financial solutions in the form of estate, business succession and retirement planning, and deferred compensation and other key executive benefit planning to small business owners, professionals, and other middle to upper income individuals. We market and distribute our products throughout the United States through two principal channels: Affiliated Partner and Independent:

- **Affiliated Partner** is an evolution of the traditional “career” channel, and includes producing and general agents who specialize in selling products to the middle and emerging affluent markets, professionals, business owners and other individuals for financial and business planning purposes.
- **Independent** consists of agents who primarily offer life insurance and annuity products to the middle and emerging affluent markets, for purposes of providing for the financial consequences of specific life events, such as death, retirement, and chronic or long-term illness. While the agents have access to all products, certain agents sell life insurance and annuity products with an emphasis on the 403(b) qualified tax deferred retirement savings market for individuals employed by public schools.

Organization

National Life Insurance Company was established in Vermont in 1848. In 1999, NLIC reorganized from a mutual to a stock insurance company as part of a reorganization into a mutual insurance holding company structure in order, among other things, to compete more effectively, have a more flexible and cost-effective capital structure, and be part of an enterprise which is better positioned to make strategic acquisitions. Concurrent with the reorganization into a mutual insurance holding company structure, NLIC created a closed block for the benefit of holders of certain of NLIC's individual participating life insurance and annuity policies ("the Closed Block"). The Closed Block is designed to give reasonable assurance to owners of policies in the Closed Block that assets will be available to provide for payment of policy benefits, including the continuation of dividends.

National Life Holding Company, a Vermont mutual insurance holding company, owns 100% of the outstanding common stock of NLVF, an intermediate stock insurance holding company incorporated under the laws of the state of Delaware. NLVF directly owns 100% of the outstanding common stock of NLIC, Sentinel Asset Management, Inc. ("Sentinel Investments"), Equity Services, Inc. ("ESI"), Catamount Reinsurance Company ("Catamount"), Longhorn Reinsurance Company ("Longhorn"), and certain other subsidiaries, and indirectly owns 100% of the outstanding common stock of Life Insurance Company of the Southwest, which is wholly owned by NLIC. NLVF indirectly owns National Life Distribution, LLC ("NLD"), whose sole member is LSW.

Non-GAAP Measures

The discussion herein, unless otherwise noted, is prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). In addition to net income, we use pre-tax operating income and core earnings, which are both pre-tax, non-GAAP financial measures, to evaluate our financial performance. Pre-tax operating income excludes income taxes and net investment gains (losses). It also excludes the portion of amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs ("DAC") and deferred sales inducements, and policyholder dividend obligations, that are related to net investment gains (losses).

Core earnings equal pre-tax operating income after excluding volatility caused by the periodic fair value measurement of certain liabilities for indexed life and annuity products, and the related impact to DAC and deferred sales inducements. Significant short-term income volatility may result from the measurement of these indexed product liabilities under GAAP, because they are sensitive to movements in equity market indexes and future interest rate assumptions. We exclude such volatility from core earnings.

Core earnings is a useful measure for the Company to analyze our results and trends because it excludes such short-term volatility and is more consistent with the economics and long-term performance of our indexed products. On a non-GAAP core earnings basis, we also exclude from revenues any investment income (losses) from derivative instruments that economically hedge our indexed product liabilities; instead, those hedging results are presented within interest credited to policyholder account liabilities. We believe the combined presentation and discussion of pre-tax operating income, core earnings, and net income provides information that will enhance readers' understanding of our underlying results, operating trends and profitability.

A reconciliation of total revenues on a GAAP basis to total revenues on a core earnings basis is presented below:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
Total revenues	\$ 795,826	\$ 619,635	\$ 1,683,429	\$ 2,017,585
Net investment (gains) losses	(41,534)	3,910	46,593	7,772
Net investment (gains) losses from derivatives that hedge equity indexed products, which is included in interest credited to policyholder liabilities on a core earnings basis	(136,554)	(24,181)	18,265	(327,319)
Total revenues on a core earnings basis	<u>\$ 617,738</u>	<u>\$ 599,364</u>	<u>\$ 1,748,287</u>	<u>\$ 1,698,038</u>

A reconciliation of net income to non-GAAP pre-tax operating income and core earnings is presented below:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
Net income	\$ 108,316	\$ 75,572	\$ 115,406	\$ 169,094
Net investment (gains) losses	(41,534)	3,910	46,593	7,772
Amortization of DAC and sales inducements, and policyholder dividend obligations, and other adjustments related to net investment gains and losses	2,384	274	(4,558)	792
Income tax expense (benefit)	28,791	21,220	(1,231)	46,081
Pre-tax operating income	97,957	100,976	156,210	223,739
Non-core losses (earnings), primarily volatility resulting from the measurement of indexed product liabilities	14,779	1,246	55,757	(8,885)
Core earnings	<u>\$ 112,736</u>	<u>\$ 102,222</u>	<u>\$ 211,967</u>	<u>\$ 214,854</u>

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

This quarterly financial performance review provides an overview of the Company's results of operations and financial position as of and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019, and, where applicable, factors that may affect the Company's future financial performance. This review should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, which have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and national governments have implemented a range of policies and actions to combat it. The Company's results for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 include the impact of elevated mortality experience and volatility in alternative asset market values resulting in part from the COVID-19 pandemic, as discussed below. The full extent of the impact of COVID-19 on world economics and the Company are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted at this time. The pandemic may continue to cause significant volatility in global financial markets, disruptions to commerce and reduced economic activity, which have the potential to materially and adversely affect the Company's cash flows, the value and liquidity of its invested assets, and its mortality and/or morbidity experience.

On March 17, 2020, the Company transitioned the majority of its operations to a work-from-home environment, and acted quickly to enhance its digital capabilities, adapting tools and processes to better enable remote sales and interactions. The Company continues to be proactive in communicating with its distribution partners, providing information and education on strategies to support customer engagement. Sales of both life and annuities in third quarter 2020 were above third quarter 2019 and within expectations year-to-date, although annuity sales will continue to face challenges from the extraordinarily low rate environment and reduced access to teachers. The Company's liquidity, invested asset quality and capital position remained strong as of September 30, 2020.

The Company's universal life, indexed universal life, and annuity products generate revenues through investment income and policy and contract charges that are earned during the life of the contracts. On a GAAP basis, revenues from net investment income include changes in the fair value of derivative instruments that economically hedge our indexed life and annuity products, primarily options and futures. Whole and term life insurance products generate primarily premium revenues. The decrease in the Company's total revenues on a GAAP basis was primarily driven by market value losses on derivative instruments of \$18 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020, compared to derivative gains of \$327 million for the same period in 2019. The derivative losses in the first nine months of 2020 reflected a significant decrease in equity market values in the first quarter, which have been largely offset by the equity market recovery in the second and third quarters. On a core earnings basis, which excludes from revenue such derivative gains (losses) as well as net investment gains (losses), the Company's total revenues were up 3% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020. These increases were driven by strong growth in the life insurance business, including increases in premium revenues of 15% and 16% and increase in policy and contract charges of 13% and 12%, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2019. The growth in life insurance revenues was partially offset by lower investment income from partnerships, which had very strong returns in the prior year-to-date period.

For the three months ended September 30, 2020, net income was \$108 million compared to \$76 million for the same period in 2019. For the nine months ended September 30, 2020, net income was \$115 million compared to \$169 million for the same period in 2019. The impact of the update of actuarial assumptions, which are reviewed annually during the third quarter, was a net positive adjustment to net income of \$27 million in the third quarter of 2020, compared to a net negative adjustment to net income of \$12 million in the third quarter of 2019.

After excluding the impact of assumption updates in both periods, net income for the nine-month period decreased approximately \$93 million compared to the same period in 2019. The nine months ended September 30, 2020 included net investment losses of \$47 million, primarily comprised of changes in the fair value of

partnerships, and negative non-core earnings of \$51 million, which reflected the volatility and decline in equity markets, primarily during the first quarter of 2020. The net investment losses and negative non-core earnings were partially offset by a tax benefit of \$25 million, as a result of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act"). The nine months ended September 30, 2019 included positive non-core earnings of \$8 million, which included the rebound in equity markets after the volatility and decline in the fourth quarter of 2018.

Core earnings were \$113 million and \$212 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, compared to \$102 million and \$215 million for the same periods in 2019. The impact of actuarial assumption updates was a net positive adjustment to core earnings of \$23 million in the third quarter of 2020, compared to a net positive adjustment to core earnings of less than \$1 million in the third quarter of 2019.

After excluding the impact of assumption updates in both periods, core earnings for the nine-month period decreased approximately \$25 million compared to the same period in 2019. The nine months ended September 30, 2020 included lower investment income from partnerships and higher mortality, which was due in part to COVID-19 claims. These decreases were partially offset by growth in policy and contract charge revenues from our indexed universal life business, and by lower operating expenses in 2020 due to a significant decrease in all categories of spending, including personnel, conferences, travel, technology, consulting and legal. Excluding the partnership portfolio, which had extremely strong returns in the 2019 year-to-date period, core earnings from our Life and Annuity businesses and FHLB funding agreement program were collectively up 9%, showing resilience and growth despite the significant challenges of the 2020 period.

Each of the components of core earnings and the factors that contributed to the changes for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, and 2019 are described in detail below.

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
Revenues:				
Insurance premiums	\$ 61,694	\$ 53,536	\$ 174,335	\$ 150,198
Policy and contract charges	214,710	190,906	621,943	555,020
Mutual fund commissions, fees and other income	20,018	20,370	48,291	58,073
Net investment income	321,316	334,552	903,718	934,747
Total revenues, on a core earnings basis	617,738	599,364	1,748,287	1,698,038
Benefits and expenses:				
(Decrease) increase in policy liabilities	(9,733)	5,778	(63,392)	(33,735)
Policy benefits	153,079	101,240	485,652	359,547
Policyholders' dividends and dividend obligations	7,295	10,456	19,238	35,806
Interest credited to policyholder account liabilities	149,691	183,504	508,234	534,622
Operating expenses	80,390	82,284	241,950	261,374
Interest expense	16,315	16,284	49,149	46,828
Policy acquisition expenses	107,965	97,596	295,489	278,742
Total benefits and expenses, on a core earnings basis	505,002	497,142	1,536,320	1,483,184
Core earnings	\$ 112,736	\$ 102,222	\$ 211,967	\$ 214,854

Insurance Premiums

Insurance premiums include considerations on traditional whole, term life insurance and disability income contracts. Insurance premiums do not include deposits received for investment-type products such as fixed interest annuities, indexed annuities and universal life policies, which comprise the majority of our new sales. Annuity products earn a net spread between net investment income on assets that support the policies and expenses for interest credited to policyholders. Revenue from universal life products is primarily reflected in policy and contract charges.

Insurance premiums increased to \$62 million and \$174 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, from \$54 million and \$150 million for the same periods in 2019. These increases were driven by higher term life and whole life product sales.

Policy and Contract Charges

Policy and contract charges include fees charged on indexed universal life products, variable annuities, premium loads, cost of insurance charges, surrender charges and rider charges. Policy and contract charges increased \$24 million, or 13%, to \$215 million for the three months ended September 30, 2020 from \$191 million for the same period in 2019. For the nine months ended September 30, 2020, these charges increased \$67 million, or 12%, to \$622 million from \$555 million for the same period in 2019. These increases were driven by growth in overall account value, primarily our indexed universal life products as well as higher surrender charges for both indexed universal life products and equity indexed annuity products.

Mutual Fund Commissions, Fees and Other Income (Losses)

Mutual fund commissions consist of dealer concessions earned by the Company's affiliated broker-dealer, Equity Services, Inc. Other income (losses) include revenues from reinsurance, change in cash surrender value of corporate owned life insurance ("COLI") and miscellaneous fee income. Revenues from mutual fund commissions, fees and other income were to \$20 million for the three months ended September 30, 2020 and 2019. For the nine-month period, revenues decreased to \$48 million in 2020 from \$58 million in 2019, primarily due to negative market value adjustments on certain indexed annuities surrendered prior to maturity and a decrease in reinsurance related revenue.

Net Investment Income

Net investment income represents interest income on our portfolio of bonds, mortgage loans, contract loans and short-term investments, as well as amortization of premium or accretion of discount on bonds, dividends from preferred and common stock, partnership income, and income (losses) from derivative instruments. On a non-GAAP core earnings basis, we exclude from net investment income any income (losses) from derivative instruments that economically hedge our indexed product liabilities; instead, those hedging results are presented within interest credited to policyholder account liabilities. Net investment income on a core earnings basis decreased \$14 million and \$31 million to \$321 million and \$904 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, from \$335 million and \$935 million for the same periods in 2019. These decreases reflected lower partnership income compared to the 2019 periods, which included very strong performance from this portfolio.

The table below provides a breakdown of the components of net investment income on a core earnings basis, which excludes income on options that economically hedge our indexed products:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
Net investment income				
Debt securities interest	\$ 250,963	\$ 249,591	\$ 733,196	\$ 722,072
Equity securities	2,639	1,064	2,789	3,005
Mortgage loan interest	40,095	43,291	118,662	125,758
Policy loan interest	10,858	10,984	33,244	32,779
Real estate income	893	909	2,870	2,352
Derivative (losses) income	(1,363)	346	(1,025)	2,022
Partnership income	25,366	36,323	38,519	67,793
Other investment income	368	725	282	4,850
Gross investment income	329,819	343,233	928,537	960,631
Less: Investment expenses	(8,503)	(8,681)	(24,819)	(25,884)
Net investment income on a core earnings basis	\$ 321,316	\$ 334,552	\$ 903,718	\$ 934,747

Increase (Decrease) in Policy Liabilities

The increase (decrease) in policy liabilities reflects changes in the product liability reserves for whole and term life insurance, disability income insurance and changes in additional reserves held on certain annuities. The change in policy liabilities was a net decrease of \$10 million and \$63 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, compared to a net increase of \$6 million and a net decrease of \$34 million for the same periods in 2019. The larger net decreases in the 2020 periods compared to 2019 were primarily related to more reserves released by death claims, including large whole life policies within the Closed Block (largely offset in policy benefit expense) partially offset by higher term life premiums in the 2020 periods.

Policy Benefits

Policy benefits include death benefits for life insurance policies, policy surrenders for whole life policies and disability income benefits. In addition, policy benefits include a small amount of miscellaneous benefits such as payments on life-contingent immediate annuities and premium waiver benefits due to disability. Policy benefits increased \$52 million and \$126 million to \$153 million and \$486 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, from \$101 million and \$360 million for the same periods in 2019. These increases were primarily due to less favorable mortality experience, elevated by COVID-19 and some large case claims in the 2020 periods.

Policyholders' Dividends and Dividend Obligations

Policyholders' dividends consist of the pro rata amount of dividends earned that will be paid or credited at the next policy anniversary and policyholder dividend obligations ("PDO") primarily arising from the Closed Block. Dividends are based on a scale that is designed to reflect the relative contribution of each group of policies to the Company's overall operating results. The dividend scales are approved annually by the Company's Board of Directors. For the non-GAAP measure of core earnings, policyholders' dividends and dividend obligations exclude amounts related to current period net investment gains (losses). Policyholders' dividends and dividend obligations included in core earnings decreased \$3 million and \$17 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, from the same periods in 2019. These decreases were due to a decrease in the PDO liability, driven by lower investment income and higher mortality in the Closed Block, as well as lower dividends paid in the 2020 periods.

Interest Credited to Policyholder Account Liabilities

Interest credited to policyholder account liabilities represents amounts credited to universal life insurance, fixed deferred annuities and indexed products, as well as the change in reserves related to guaranteed lifetime income riders (“GLIR”) and the amortization of sales inducements. For the non-GAAP presentation of core earnings, interest credited also includes income (losses) on options that economically hedge our indexed products. Core interest credited decreased \$34 million to \$150 million for the three months ended September 30, 2020 from \$184 million the same period in 2019. For the nine months ended September 30, 2020, core interest credited decreased \$27 million to \$508 million from \$535 million for the same period in 2019.

These decreases reflected a larger impact from actuarial assumption updates in 2020. The actuarial assumption updates in 2020 included a reduction in reserves for GLIR of approximately \$37 million, related to lowering future benefit roll-up rates for in-force annuities due to the low interest rate environment, while the actuarial assumption adjustments in 2019 had a minimal impact on this line item.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses consist primarily of administrative, maintenance and operational expenses related to servicing the Company’s business. Operating expenses were \$80 million and \$242 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, compared to \$82 million and \$261 million for the same periods in 2019. Operating expenses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020 included lower spending across all categories including personnel, conferences, travel, technology, consulting and legal. On June 24, 2020, the Company announced a reduction in workforce of 95 positions in response to the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Year-to-date 2020 also included significantly lower deferred compensation costs compared to prior year. The net change in certain defined contribution deferred compensation liabilities reported in operating expenses is largely offset by changes in the fair value of certain equity investments, which are reported within net investment income (loss). Excluding the changes in deferred compensation costs, operating expenses decreased approximately 6% from the same period in 2019.

Interest Expense

Interest expense consists of interest paid on the Company's surplus notes and senior notes. Interest expense totaled \$16 million and \$49 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, compared to \$16 million and \$47 million for the same periods in 2019. The increase in year-to-date interest expense was due to \$128 million of 5.25% surplus notes due 2068 that were issued by NLIC in April 2019.

Policy Acquisition Expenses

Policy acquisition expenses include commissions and other costs related to the acquisition of new or renewal life and annuity business, as well as amortization of previously deferred acquisition costs. Commissions and other costs that are directly related to the successful acquisition of new or renewal insurance contracts are eligible to be deferred under GAAP. DAC for participating life insurance, universal life insurance, and annuities is amortized and recognized in income in relation to future estimated gross profits. DAC for non-participating term and whole life insurance and participating limited-payment and single-payment life insurance is amortized and recognized in relation to premium income. Policy acquisition expenses are reported net of amounts deferred in the current year and include the amortization of DAC.

For the non-GAAP presentation of core earnings, policy acquisition expenses exclude amortization of DAC related to net investment gains (losses) on assets that support policy reserves, and amortization of DAC related to non-core earnings. Policy acquisition expenses for the life and annuity businesses included in core earnings were \$108 million for the three months ended September 30, 2020, up from \$98 million for the same period in 2019. For the nine months ended September 30, 2020, policy acquisition expenses included in core earnings were \$295 million, up from \$279 million for the same period in 2019. These increases were primarily attributable

to higher amortization expense driven by an increased volume of indexed universal life and annuity products as well as the impact of actuarial assumption updates.

The actuarial assumption updates included in core amortization expense in 2020 included an increase of approximately \$8 million, chiefly due to a change in the mortality assumption for 2021 related to an expected increase in death claims from COVID-19. The actuarial assumption updates in the 2019 period included an increase in amortization of approximately \$2 million, due to changes to spread assumptions partially offset by favorable mortality. As a result, the period over period change due to the impact of actuarial assumption updates was a \$6 million increase in amortization expense for the three and nine-month periods in 2020 compared to the prior year periods.

Net Investment Gains (Losses)

The Company recorded net investment gains of \$42 million and losses of \$47 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020, respectively, compared to net investment losses of \$4 million and \$8 million for the same periods in 2019. Changes in the fair value of partnerships not accounted for using the equity method (based on the Company's level of ownership and influence) are recorded within net investment losses. These partnerships saw significant fair value decreases in the second quarter of 2020, which were partially recovered in third quarter, resulting in gains of \$37 million and losses of \$29 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2020. This compared to losses of \$5 million and \$16 million from partnership fair value changes for the same periods in 2019. Net investment losses for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 included impairments on debt securities of \$21 million; there were no asset impairments recorded in the three months ended September 30, 2020, or in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2019. The non-GAAP measure of pre-tax operating income excludes net investment gains (losses) and is also adjusted to exclude amortization of DAC and sales inducements, and policyholder dividend obligations, that are related to net investment gains (losses) (see "Non-GAAP Measures," above).

Details of net investment gains (losses) by asset category are provided in the table below:

	For the Three Months Ended		For the Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
Net investment gains (losses) on:				
Debt securities	\$ 2,482	\$ 11,524	\$ (15,280)	\$ 20,397
Equity securities	2,126	(125)	(119)	1,272
Mortgage loans	(546)	5	(1,743)	(739)
Partnerships	37,462	(5,211)	(29,066)	(15,787)
Other invested assets	(15)	(2,369)	(410)	(4,391)
Real estate	—	(4,262)	—	(4,364)
Debt retirement	—	—	—	(688)
Impairment of capitalized software	25	(3,472)	25	(3,472)
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ 41,534	\$ (3,910)	\$ (46,593)	\$ (7,772)

Federal Income Taxes

Federal income tax expense for the three months ended September 30, 2020 was \$29 million compared to \$21 million for the same period in 2019. For the nine months ended September 30, 2020, the federal income tax benefit was \$1 million compared to income tax expense of \$46 million for the same period in 2019. The Company's net tax benefit for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 was due to a one-time tax benefit of \$25 million from the Company's ability to carry back its 2018 net operating loss to prior tax years, as a result of the CARES Act legislation enacted on March 27, 2020.

Non-Core Earnings

Non-core earnings primarily include short-term income volatility that results from the fair value measurement under GAAP of certain indexed product liabilities, which are sensitive to movement in equity market indexes and future interest rate assumptions, and the related impact to DAC and deferred sales inducements. Non-core earnings reduced pre-tax operating earnings by \$51 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 and contributed \$8 million of positive non-core earnings to pre-tax operating earnings for the same period in 2019. The losses (negative non-core earnings) in 2020 were primarily due to significant equity market volatility during the period, partially offset by a \$4 million positive impact to non-core earnings from actuarial assumption updates. The positive non-core earnings in 2019 reflected positive movement in the equity markets, which rebounded in the first quarter of 2019 after the volatility and decline in the fourth quarter of 2018, partially offset by a \$13 million negative impact to non-core earnings from actuarial assumption updates.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Balance Sheet Information

The Company's investment objective is to keep its promises to policyholders by earning competitive net investment income within prudent and strategic asset allocation, asset liability management, and risk management frameworks. This includes portfolio and issuer diversification and careful consideration of various scenarios including interest rate, credit, and liquidity risks through market cycles. The Company's investment portfolio consists primarily of available-for-sale debt and equity securities, agency mortgage-backed securities, directly underwritten commercial real estate mortgages and contract loans.

As of September 30, 2020, total assets were \$38.1 billion, primarily attributable to investments that support life insurance policy and annuity contracts with more than 1,000,000 customers. Cash and investments increased \$2.4 billion from December 31, 2019, which included a \$458 million increase in the fair value of derivative assets, primarily equity index options used to hedge our indexed product liabilities, and a \$893 million increase in net unrealized gains on available-for-sale debt securities. After excluding net unrealized gains and losses, total cash and invested assets as of September 30, 2020 were \$29.8 billion compared to \$28.8 billion at December 31, 2019, including an increase in available-for-sale debt securities of \$838 million, driven primarily by cash flows from our growing life and annuity business. The remainder of the portfolio consists primarily of commercial mortgage loans, partnerships and other invested assets, cash, trading debt securities, equity securities, policy loans, and other short-term investments.

Total liabilities as of September 30, 2020 were \$34.0 billion, compared to \$32.1 billion as of December 31, 2019. The increase of \$1.9 billion for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 was primarily due to increases in policyholder account liabilities and derivative liabilities.

We evaluate our capital adequacy based on internally-defined risk tolerances, regulatory requirements, rating agency and creditor expectations and business needs. We regularly evaluate the impact on our capital of potential macroeconomic, financial and insurance stresses. We believe that our capital resources are sufficient to satisfy future requirements and meet our obligations to policyholders, creditors and debt-holders, including those arising from reasonably foreseeable contingencies or events.

The following table provides a summary of the Company's consolidated balance sheet data:

	As of September 30, 2020	As of December 31, 2019
	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
Assets:		
Cash and investments	\$ 34,201,555	\$ 31,849,806
Other general account assets	2,955,840	3,034,511
Separate account assets	904,670	881,791
Total assets	\$ 38,062,065	\$ 35,766,108
Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity:		
Total liabilities	33,950,599	32,119,741
Stockholder's Equity:		
Retained earnings	3,126,688	3,011,282
Accumulated other comprehensive income	984,778	635,085
Total stockholder's equity	4,111,466	3,646,367
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	\$ 38,062,065	\$ 35,766,108

Cash Flow and Liquidity Information

Cash and restricted cash was \$471 million at September 30, 2020, compared to \$453 million at December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily due to a decrease in investments acquired. In addition to liquidity sourced from cash flows including premiums, deposits, investment income and maturities, the Company has access to secured asset-based borrowing capacity through membership in the Federal Home Loan Banks of Boston and Dallas. The Company evaluates liquidity risk quarterly by projecting cash flows under a stress scenario to ensure that there is sufficient liquidity to meet operating demands and objectives over a 36-month period, without consideration of mitigating actions such as the liquidation of investment holdings and changes in our investment strategy and product offerings.

The following table includes the Company's consolidated cash flows provided by or used in operating, investing, and financing activities:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2020	2019
	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
Net cash used by operating activities	\$ (152,645)	\$ (47,039)
Net cash used in investing activities	(977,297)	(1,415,990)
Net cash provided by financing activities	1,148,167	1,732,839
Net increase in cash	<u>\$ 18,225</u>	<u>\$ 269,810</u>

Net cash used by operating activities was \$153 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020, compared to \$47 million net cash used by operating activities in the same period of 2019. The increase in cash used by operating activities compared to the prior year was primarily due to changes in other assets and liabilities resulting from income tax activity and lower accrued expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2020.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$977 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020, compared to \$1.4 billion the same period in 2019. The decrease in cash used in investing activities was primarily due to increased proceeds from sales, maturities and repayments of investments and decreased cost of investments acquired, partially offset by decreases in short-term investments and short-term broker collateral.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$1.1 billion for the nine months ended September 30, 2020, compared to \$1.7 billion for the same period in 2019. The decrease in net cash provided by financing activities was primarily due to a \$219 million decrease in policyholder deposits, net of withdrawals, which was primarily related to lower sales of single premium annuities, and lower net issuances of Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB") funding agreements. FHLB net issuances (net of repayments) were \$114 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2020, compared to \$345 million for the same period in 2019. FHLB activity is managed opportunistically, so the volume of funding agreements issued depends on pricing and the availability of desirable assets to support these liabilities.

Other Selected Data

	As of September 30, 2020	As of December 31, 2019	Change
	<i>(in millions)</i>		
Life insurance in force (before reinsurance ceded)	\$ 200,407	\$ 173,316	\$ 27,091
Total cash and invested assets (excluding unrealized gains and losses)	\$ 29,754	\$ 28,753	\$ 1,001
	For the Nine Months Ended		
	September 30, 2020	September 30, 2019	Change
<u>Weighted New Annualized Premium ("WNAP") Sales</u>	<i>(in millions)</i>		
Life	\$ 242	\$ 263	\$ (21)
Annuity	174	213	(39)
Total Life and Annuity WNAP	<u>\$ 416</u>	<u>\$ 476</u>	<u>\$ (60)</u>

Life WNAP sales were lower for the nine months ended September 30, 2020 compared to a very strong period in 2019, but sales and application volumes remained healthy despite the economic slowdown and the transition by our distributors to doing business virtually, and both life and annuity sales for third quarter 2020 were above third quarter 2019. Annuity sales are expected to continue to be challenged by the very low interest rate environment and reduced access to K-12 teachers in schools during the pandemic.

PROSPECTIVE INFORMATION

Forward-looking statements contained herein are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors. The following uncertainties, among others, may have such an effect:

- Difficult conditions in the global capital markets and the economy;
- Significant market valuation fluctuations of the Company's investments, including any that are relatively illiquid;
- Differing interpretations in the methodologies, estimations and assumptions for the valuation of fixed maturity, equity and trading securities;
- Subjectivity in determining the amount of allowances and impairments taken on certain Company investments;
- Defaults on commercial mortgages held by the Company and volatilities in performance;
- Exposure to structured finance securities;
- Exposure to alternative investments;
- Exposure to mortgage-backed securities;
- Impairments of other institutions;
- Changes in interest rates and exposure to credit spreads;
- Effectiveness of the Company's hedging strategies and availability of hedging instruments;
- Impact of economic conditions on customers and vendors;
- Downgrades or potential downgrades in the Company's ratings;
- Changes in accounting rules;
- Adverse regulatory and legislative developments;
- Litigation and regulatory investigations;
- Changes in tax laws and the interpretation thereof;
- Inability to pay guaranteed policy benefits;
- Effectiveness of the Company's risk management policies and procedures;
- Lack of available, affordable or adequate reinsurance;
- Failure of counterparties to perform under reinsurance agreements, hedging instruments, or other contracts with the Company;
- Significant competition in the Company's businesses;

- Sensitivity of the amount of statutory capital the Company must hold to factors outside of its control;
- Adequacy of the Company's reserves for future policy benefits and claims;
- Deviations from assumptions regarding future mortality, morbidity, and interest rates used in calculating reserve amounts and pricing the Company's products;
- Ability to attract and retain producing agents and key personnel;
- Ability to raise additional capital;
- Costs related to future pension obligations;
- Impact of international tension between the United States and other nations, terrorist attacks or ongoing military and other actions;
- Pandemics or other catastrophic events; and
- A computer system failure or security breach.

Consequently, such forward-looking statements should be regarded solely as our current plans, estimates, and beliefs. We do not intend, and do not undertake, any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect future events or circumstances after the date of such statements.

Our goals over the next several years include continued responsible growth across all of our product lines, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall organization. The Company will continue to deliver new and innovative products and riders, and partner with distributors who share our mission, values, and purpose. We will also continue to invest in our technology infrastructure to improve services for all our key stakeholders.

We will continue to manage our investment portfolio with the objective of competitive net investment income within prudent strategic asset allocation, asset liability management, and risk management frameworks.

Basis of Presentation and Principles of Consolidation

The following consolidated financial statements of NLVF have been prepared in conformity with GAAP. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the Company's consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, which have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, including the accompanying notes which are an integral part of the audited financial statements. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Company to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and related disclosures. Actual results could differ, possibly materially, from those estimates.

The consolidated financial statements of the Company include the accounts of NLVF and its direct and indirect subsidiaries. Intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

Certain reclassifications have been made to conform prior periods to the current year's presentation.

NLV Financial Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Balance Sheets
As of September 30, 2020 and December 31, 2019

(in thousands)

Assets:

Cash and investments:

	As of September 30, 2020	As of December 31, 2019
Available-for-sale debt securities	\$ 25,431,492	\$ 23,700,099
Equity securities	54,467	62,882
Trading debt securities	189,046	136,630
Mortgage loans	3,769,682	3,718,391
Policy loans	950,549	959,969
Real estate investments	12,349	11,806
Derivative assets	1,866,922	1,409,070
Other invested assets	1,176,097	1,236,434
Short term investments	279,651	161,450
Cash and restricted cash	471,300	453,075
Total cash and investments	34,201,555	31,849,806
Deferred policy acquisition costs	1,739,124	1,856,701
Accrued investment income	258,557	248,668
Premiums and fees receivable	10,252	22,109
Amounts recoverable from reinsurers	131,591	108,588
Property and equipment, net	173,170	173,100
Corporate owned life insurance	514,517	507,237
Federal income tax recoverable	10,380	—
Other assets	118,249	118,108
Separate account assets	904,670	881,791
Total assets	\$ 38,062,065	\$ 35,766,108

Liabilities:

Policy liabilities:

Policy benefit liabilities	\$ 4,224,576	\$ 4,255,302
Policyholder account liabilities	24,703,081	23,565,407
Policyholders' deposits	96,906	99,692
Policy claims payable	122,911	76,447
Policyholders' dividends and dividend obligations	363,138	233,491
Total policy liabilities	29,510,612	28,230,339
Amounts payable to reinsurers	24,304	36,509
Derivative liabilities	1,388,740	881,670
Other liabilities and accrued expenses	688,816	715,966
Pension and other post-retirement benefit obligations	168,958	165,753
Deferred income taxes	349,411	257,671
Federal income tax payable	—	35,362
Debt	915,088	914,680
Separate account liabilities	904,670	881,791
Total liabilities	\$ 33,950,599	\$ 32,119,741

Stockholder's equity:

Class A common stock, 2,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding	\$ —	\$ —
Class B common stock, par value of \$0.01, 1,001 shares authorized, 100 shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Preferred stock, 500 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Retained earnings	3,126,688	3,011,282
Accumulated other comprehensive income	984,778	635,085
Total stockholder's equity	\$ 4,111,466	\$ 3,646,367
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	\$ 38,062,065	\$ 35,766,108

NLV Financial Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income
For the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2020 and 2019

<i>(in thousands)</i>	For the Three Months Ended		For the Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
Revenues:				
Insurance premiums	\$ 61,694	\$ 53,536	\$ 174,335	\$ 150,198
Policy and contract charges	214,710	190,906	621,943	555,020
Mutual fund commissions and fee income	13,250	14,107	39,732	39,088
Net investment income	457,870	354,471	885,453	1,262,066
Net investment gains (losses)	41,534	(3,910)	(46,593)	(7,772)
Other income	6,768	10,525	8,559	18,985
Total revenues	795,826	619,635	1,683,429	2,017,585
Benefits and expenses:				
(Decrease) increase in policy liabilities	(9,733)	5,778	(63,392)	(33,735)
Policy benefits	153,079	101,240	485,652	359,547
Policyholders' dividends and dividend obligations	7,338	10,456	18,336	36,302
Interest credited to policyholder account liabilities	291,513	181,068	493,852	780,407
Operating expenses	80,390	82,284	241,950	261,374
Interest expense	16,315	16,284	49,149	46,828
Policy acquisition expenses	119,817	125,733	343,707	351,687
Total benefits and expenses	658,719	522,843	1,569,254	1,802,410
Income before income taxes	137,107	96,792	114,175	215,175
Income tax expense (benefit)	28,791	21,220	(1,231)	46,081
Net income	\$ 108,316	\$ 75,572	\$ 115,406	\$ 169,094

NLV Financial Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholder's Equity
For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2020 and 2019

	Class A Common Stock	Class B Common Stock	Preferred Stock	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total
<i>(in thousands)</i>						
January 1, 2019	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,741,935	\$ (80,925)	\$ 2,661,010
Net income	—	—	—	169,094	—	169,094
Effect of implementation of ASU 2016-01, net	—	—	—	45,804	(45,804)	—
Change in unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities, net	—	—	—	—	879,007	879,007
Change in cash flow hedge on debt issuance, net	—	—	—	—	31	31
Change in additional minimum pension liability, net	—	—	—	—	8,834	8,834
Total comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	—	1,056,966
September 30, 2019	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,956,834	\$ 761,142	\$ 3,717,976
January 1, 2020	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3,011,282	\$ 635,085	\$ 3,646,367
Net income	—	—	—	115,406	—	115,406
Change in unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities, net	—	—	—	—	343,928	343,928
Change in cash flow hedge on debt issuance, net	—	—	—	—	31	31
Change in additional minimum pension liability, net	—	—	—	—	5,734	5,734
Total comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	—	465,099
September 30, 2020	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3,126,688	\$ 984,778	\$ 4,111,466

NLV Financial Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2020 and 2019

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2020	2019
<i>(in thousands)</i>		
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 115,406	\$ 169,094
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Provision for deferred income taxes	(1,217)	3,936
Interest credited to policyholder account liabilities	493,852	780,407
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	288,751	285,533
Policy and contract charges	(621,943)	(555,020)
Net investment losses	46,593	4,387
Change in fair value of derivatives	18,582	(326,971)
Change in corporate owned life insurance policies	(5,478)	(9,917)
Depreciation	7,398	23,347
Other	(4,041)	(10,289)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accrued investment income	(9,890)	(23,414)
Deferred policy acquisition costs	(429,536)	(444,951)
Policy liabilities	82,158	66,772
Other assets and liabilities	(133,280)	(9,953)
Net cash used by operating activities	<u>(152,645)</u>	<u>(47,039)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sales, maturities and repayments of investments	2,610,124	2,337,355
Cost of investments acquired	(3,514,673)	(4,028,892)
Property and equipment additions	(5,841)	(23,179)
Change in policy loans	9,421	(28,182)
Change in short term investments	(118,201)	147,100
Change in short term broker collateral	35,881	219,475
Other	5,992	(39,667)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(977,297)</u>	<u>(1,415,990)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Policyholders' deposits	2,211,432	2,330,690
Policyholders' withdrawals	(1,172,854)	(1,073,543)
Advances from Federal Home Loan Banks	309,412	357,212
Repayments to Federal Home Loan Banks	(195,176)	(12,131)
Proceeds from debt issuance	—	124,527
Debt retirement	—	(1,921)
Change in other deposits	(4,647)	8,005
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>1,148,167</u>	<u>1,732,839</u>
Net increase in cash	18,225	269,810
Cash and restricted cash:		
Beginning of year	453,075	157,586
End of year	<u>\$ 471,300</u>	<u>\$ 427,396</u>