# Portfolio Recovery Associates Reports Third Quarter 2010 Results 

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NORFOLK, VA, Oct 27, 2010 (MARKETWIRE via COMTEX) --
Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc. (NASDAQ: PRAA), a company that purchases, collects and manages portfolios of defaulted consumer receivables and provides a broad range of receivables management and payments processing services, today reported net income of $\$ 18.5$ million for the quarter ended September 30, 2010. Net income increased $83 \%$ from $\$ 10.1$ million in the same period a year earlier. Earnings were $\$ 1.08$ per diluted share for the third quarter of 2010 compared with $\$ 0.65$ in the third quarter of 2009, representing an increase of $66 \%$.

In the third quarter of 2010, total revenue was up $39 \%$ from the year-earlier period to a record $\$ 95.5$ million. Total revenue consists of cash collections reduced by amounts applied to principal on the Company's owned debt portfolios, plus fee income earned from its fee-for-service businesses. During the third quarter of 2010 , the Company applied $41.8 \%$ of cash collections to reduce the carrying basis of its owned debt portfolios, compared with $41.2 \%$ in the third quarter of 2009 . The third quarter 2010 amortization rate included a $\$ 6.5$ million net allowance charge, equivalent to approximately $\$ 4.0$ million after tax, or 23 cents per diluted share, against certain pools of finance receivables accounts.
"Portfolio Recovery Associates has had a very strong year thus far, even in the face of a continued weakened economy," said Steven D. Fredrickson, chairman, president and chief executive officer. "In the third quarter, we produced record cash collections, record cash receipts and record revenue. At the same time, net income and earnings per share both demonstrated strong growth. This fine performance was due to long-term initiatives in a number of areas, including the continued success of our bankruptcy business, our ongoing search for greater operational efficiencies, the expansion of our internal legal collections channel, and the continued contributions of our fee-based businesses."

Fredrickson continued: "I am extremely pleased with PRA's performance across all of our businesses. The credit, of course, goes to our staff, which has continued to work smarter and more efficiently than ever."

Financial and Operating Highlights
-- Cash collections increased 49\% to a record $\$ 137.4$ million in the third quarter of 2010, up from $\$ 92.4$ million in the year-ago period. Call center and other collections increased $6 \%$, external legal collections increased $32 \%$, internal legal collections grew $96 \%$, and purchased bankruptcy collections gained $140 \%$ when compared with the year-earlier period. The table below displays our cash collections by source, by quarter for the past five quarters:
Cash Collection Source (\$ in
thousands) Q32010 Q22010 Q12010 Q42009 Q32009
Call Center \& Othe
Collections $\quad \$ 51,711$ \$ 54,477 \$ 56,987 \$ 45,365 \$ 48,590
$\begin{array}{llllll}\text { External Legal Collections } \quad 20,217 & 18,819 & 18,276 & 15,496 & 15,330\end{array}$
Internal Legal Collections $\quad 12,130 \quad 11,362 \quad 10,713 \quad 7,570 \quad 6,196$
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Purchased Bankruptcy } & 53,319 & 43,748 & 33,219 & 26,855 \\ 22,251\end{array}$
-- Up 96\% from the prior year, internal legal collections grew to \$12.1 million in the third quarter of 2010. Internal legal collections, in which the Company uses its own staff attorneys or in select cases, third-party attorneys working on a fixed price basis, represent an important, emerging collections channel the Company has been developing over the past four years.
-- Productivity finished at a record $\$ 190$ for the first nine months of 2010 vs. $\$ 145$ for all of 2009. Productivity is measured by cash collections per hour paid, the Company's key measure of collector performance. Excluding the impact of trustee remittances from purchased bankrupt accounts, the comparison is $\$ 129$ for the first nine months of 2010 , compared with $\$ 113$ for all of 2009. Excluding trustee remittances on purchased bankrupt accounts and external legal collections, the comparison is $\$ 101$ for the first nine months of 2010 and $\$ 87$ for all of 2009.
-- In the third quarter, revenue was a record $\$ 95.5$ million, up $39 \%$ when compared with the same period a year ago, driven by record cash receipts of $\$ 152.9$ million, up $43.4 \%$ from $\$ 106.6$ million a year earlier. Cash receipts are comprised of both cash collections and revenue from the Company's fee-based businesses.
-- The Company's net allowance charge totaled $\$ 6.5$ million in the third quarter, representing $0.81 \%$ of net finance receivables at period-end and $4.75 \%$ of cash collections. The table below displays net allowance charges incurred by quarter, by buying period since 2005, as well as purchases of charged-off consumer debt, net of buybacks:
(\$ in thousands)

| Allowance Period | Purchase Period |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1996-2003 | 2004 | 42005 | 2006 | 2007 |
| Q1 05 | \$ - \$ | - \$ | - \$ | - \$ | - |
| Q2 05 | - | - | - - | - - |  |
| Q3 05 | - | - | - - | - - |  |
| Q4 05 | 200 | - | - | - - |  |
| Q1 06 | - | - | 175 | - - |  |
| Q2 06 | 75 | - | 125 | - - | - |
| Q3 06 | 200 | - | 75 | - - | - |
| Q4 06 | - | - | 450 | - - |  |
| Q1 07 | (245) | - | 610 | - | - |
| Q2 07 | 90 | - | - | - - |  |
| Q3 07 | 200 | 320 | 660 | - | - |
| Q4 07 | 190 | 150 | 615 | 340 | - |
| Q1 08 | 120 | 650 | 910 | 1,105 | - |
| Q2 08 | 260 | 720 | - | 2,330 | 650 |
| Q3 08 | (90) | 60 | 325 | 1,135 | 2,350 |
| Q4 08 | (400) | (140) | 1,805 | 2,600 | 4,380 |
| Q1 09 | (225) | 35 | 1,150 | 910 | 2,300 |
| Q2 09 | (230) | (220) | 495 | 765 | 685 |
| Q3 09 | (25) | (190) | 1,170 | 1,965 | 340 |
| Q4 09 | (120) | - | 1,375 | 1,220 | 110 |
| Q1 10 | - | 2 | 2,795 1, | 1,175 2, | 2,900 |
| Q2 10 | - | (80) | 1,600 | 2,100 | 700 |

Portfolio Purchases
net $\quad \$ 203,026$ \$ 59,177 \$ 143,171 \$ 107,701 \$ 258, 271
(\$ in thousands)


Portfolio Purchases
net $\quad \$ 275,130 \$ 559,907$ \$1,606,383

Acquired in 68 portfolios from nine different sellers, the Company purchased $\$ 1.38$ billion of face-value debt during the third quarter of 2010 for $\$ 92.5$ million. The tables below display purchase price amounts by year, net of buybacks, current net finance receivable balance, cash collections to date including sales, estimated remaining collections and estimated purchase price multiples:
(\$ in thousands)
Entire Portfolio

| Unamortized | Total |
| :--- | :---: |
| Purchase | Estimated |
| Price Actual Cash $\quad$ Collections |  |
| Balance at Collections Estimated to |  |

Purchase Purchase Estimated September Including Remaining Purchase
Period Price Collections 30, 2010 Cash Sales Collections Price

| 1996 | $\$$ | 3,080 | $\$$ | 10,094 | $\$$ | $-\$ 10,024$ | $\$$ | 70 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | $328 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1997 | 7,685 | 25,244 | - | 25,057 | 187 | $328 \%$ |  |  |
| 1998 | 11,089 | 36,913 | - | 36,506 | 407 | $333 \%$ |  |  |
| 1999 | 18,898 | 68,282 | - | 66,901 | 1,381 | $361 \%$ |  |  |
| 2000 | 25,020 | 113,442 | - | 110,146 | 3,296 | $453 \%$ |  |  |
| 2001 | 33,481 | 169,035 |  | 165,568 | 3,467 | $505 \%$ |  |  |
| 2002 | 42,325 | 187,309 | - | 182,872 | 4,437 | $443 \%$ |  |  |
| 2003 | 61,448 | 248,438 | - | 240,944 | 7,494 | $404 \%$ |  |  |
| 2004 | 59,177 | 184,196 | 462 | 176,311 | 7,885 | $311 \%$ |  |  |
| 2005 | 143,171 | 309,500 | 23,563 | 265,608 | 43,892 | $216 \%$ |  |  |
| 2006 | 107,701 | 218,553 | 29,349 | 163,894 | 54,659 | $203 \%$ |  |  |
| 2007 | 258,271 | 505,819 | 111,183 | 316,096 | 189,723 | $196 \%$ |  |  |
| 2008 | 275,130 | 538,306 | 166,926 | 246,306 | 292,000 | $196 \%$ |  |  |
| 2009 | 281,641 | 713,656 | 213,969 | 190,109 | 523,547 | $253 \%$ |  |  |
| YTD 2010 | 278,266 | 585,030 | 261,787 | 47,901 | 537,129 | $210 \%$ |  |  |

Total $\quad \$ 1,606,383 \$ 3,913,817 \$ 807,239 \$ 2,244,243 \$ 1,669,574 \quad 244 \%$
(\$ in thousands)
Purchased Bankruptcy (BK)
Portfolio

| Unamortized | Total |
| :--- | :---: |
| Purchase | Estimated |
| Price Actual Cash | Collections |

Total Balance at Collections Estimated to
Purchase Purchase Estimated September Including Remaining Purchase
Period Price Collections 30, 2010 Cash Sales Collections Price

| $1996-2003$ | $\$$ | $-\$$ | $-\$$ | $-\$$ | $-\$$ | - | $0 \%$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2004 | 7,469 | 14,160 | 13 | 14,113 | 47 | $190 \%$ |  |  |
| 2005 | 29,302 | 43,020 | 340 | 42,577 | 443 | $147 \%$ |  |  |
| 2006 | 17,643 | 30,450 | 269 | 28,321 | 2,129 | $173 \%$ |  |  |
| 2007 | 78,933 | 112,658 | 31,286 | 74,210 | 38,448 | $143 \%$ |  |  |
| 2008 | 108,603 | 183,196 | 72,428 | 78,709 | 104,486 | $169 \%$ |  |  |
| 2009 | 156,094 | 360,984 | 132,970 | 75,372 | 285,611 | $231 \%$ |  |  |
| YTD 2010 | 172,703 | 324,794 | 167,846 | 21,327 | 303,468 | $188 \%$ |  |  |

Total $\$ 570,747 \$ 1,069,262 \$ 405,152 \$ 334,629 \$ 734,632 \quad 187 \%$
(\$ in thousands)
Entire Portfolio less
Purchased BK

| Purchase Period |  | Price Ac Balance | Collections |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total <br> Purchase | Estimated | Septem | mber Includ | uding Remain | ng Purc |
|  | Price Colle | ections 30, | 2010 Cas | Cash Sales C | Collections | Price |
| 1996 \$ | \$ 3,080 \$ | 10,094 \$ | - \$ | 10,024 \$ | 70 32 | 28\% |
| 1997 | 7,685 | 25,244 | 25, | 5,057 187 | 187 328\% |  |
| 1998 | 11,089 | 36,913 | - 36 | 36,506 407 | 407 333\% |  |
| 1999 | 18,898 | 68,282 | 66 | 66,901 1,381 | 1,381 361 |  |
| 2000 | 25,020 | 113,442 | 11 | 110,146 3, | 3,296 45 | 53\% |
| 2001 | 33,481 | 169,035 | - 16 | 165,568 3, | 3,467 50 | 05\% |
| 2002 | 42,325 | 187,309 | - 18 | 182,872 4, | 4,437 44 | 43\% |
| 2003 | 61,448 | 248,438 | 24 | 240,944 7 | 7,494 40 | 04\% |
| 2004 | 51,708 | 170,036 | 449 | 162,198 | 7,838 | 329\% |
| 2005 | 113,869 | 266,479 | 23,223 | 223,031 | 143,448 | 234\% |
| 2006 | 90,058 | 188,104 | 29,080 | 135,573 | 52,531 | 209\% |
| 2007 | 179,338 | 393,160 | 79,897 | 241,886 | 151,274 | 219\% |
| 2008 | 166,527 | 355,111 | 94,498 | 167,597 | 187,514 | 213\% |
| 2009 | 125,547 | 352,673 | 80,999 | 114,737 | 237,936 | 281\% |
| YTD 2010 | 105,563 | 260,236 | 93,941 | 41 26,574 | 74 233,662 | 247\% |

## Total $\$ 1,035,636$ \$2,844,556 \$ 402,087 \$1,909,614 \$ 934,942 275\%


-- The Company's fee-for-service businesses generated revenue of $\$ 15.5$ million in the third quarter of 2010 , up $9 \%$ from $\$ 14.2$ million in the same period a year ago, due primarily to the acquisition of CCB earlier this year. These businesses accounted for $16.2 \%$ of the Company's overall revenue in the third quarter of 2010, down from $20.8 \%$ in Q3 2009.
-- During the third quarter of 2010, the Company recorded ongoing non-cash equity-based compensation expense of $\$ 1.0$ million, equivalent to approximately $\$ 612,000$ after tax, or 4 cents per diluted share.
-- The Company's cash balances were $\$ 20.3$ million as of Sept. 30, 2010. During the third quarter, the Company made net repayments of \$1.0 million on its line of credit, leaving it with $\$ 288.5$ million in outstanding borrowings at quarter's end. Remaining borrowing availability under the line was $\$ 76.5$ million at Sept. 30, 2010.
-- The Company has included, for the first time, tables with additional financial highlights for the three- and nine-month periods ended Sept. 30, 2010, as well as the past five quarters of the same data, at the bottom of this release.

Kevin P. Stevenson, chief financial and administrative officer, said: "The third quarter of 2010 was another strong one for Portfolio Recovery Associates. A number of factors drove this performance, including the continued maturation of our sizeable investments in bankruptcy portfolios and steady improvements in call center and legal collections. Reflecting these improvements, recoveries per hour paid, our core measure of productivity, finished the first nine months of the year at a record $\$ 190$. Taken together, these factors allowed us to overcome a $\$ 6.5$ million allowance charge, additional significant investments in our legal pipeline, and a still-weak U.S. economy."

The Company's nine-month 2010 earnings totaled $\$ 52.8$ million, or $\$ 3.15$ per diluted share, compared with $\$ 31.9$ million, or $\$ 2.07$ per diluted share, for the first nine months of 2009. First-nine month 2010 revenue was $\$ 272.0$ million, compared with $\$ 207.9$ million in the first nine months of 2009

## Conference Call Information

The Company will hold a conference call with investors tonight, 5:30 p.m. EDT, Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010, to discuss its third-quarter results. Investors can access the cal live by dialing 888-713-4213 for domestic callers or 617-213-4865 for international callers using the pass code 82740845 . Investors may also listen via webcast at the Company's website, www.portfoliorecovery.com.

Following the live call, investors may listen to the call via a taped replay, which will be available for seven days, by dialing 888-286-8010 for domestic callers and $617-801$ 6888 for international callers using the pass code 91118122 . The replay will be available approximately two hours after today's conference call ends. There will also be an archived webcast available at the Company's website.

For the fourth consecutive year, Portfolio Recovery Associates has been named to the Forbes 100 Best Small Companies in America annual rankings list, as announced in the Nov. 8, 2010, edition of the business magazine. PRA is ranked 56 among the top 100 small businesses listed.

About Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc.
Portfolio Recovery Associates' business revolves around the detection, collection, and processing of both unpaid and normal-course receivables originally owed to credit grantors, governments, retailers and others. The Company's primary business is the purchase, collection and management of portfolios of defaulted consumer receivables. These are the unpaid obligations of individuals to credit originators, which include banks, credit unions, consumer and auto finance companies, and retail merchants. Portfolio Recovery Associates also provides fee-based services, including collateral-location services for credit originators via its IGS subsidiary, revenue administration, audit and debt discovery/recovery services for government entities through both its RDS and MuniServices businesses and class action claims recovery services and related payment processing through its CCB subsidiary.

Statements herein which are not historical, including Portfolio Recovery Associates' or management's intentions, hopes, beliefs, expectations, representations, projections plans or predictions of the future, including future revenue and earnings growth, statements with respect to future contributions of its subsidiaries to earnings and future portfolio-purchase opportunities, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements include references to Portfolio Recovery Associates' presentations and web casts. The forwardlooking statements in this press release are based upon management's beliefs, assumptions and expectations of the Company's future operations and economic performance, taking into account currently available information. These statements are not statements of historical fact. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, some of which are not currently known to us. Actual events or results may differ from those expressed or implied in any such forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including the risk factors and other risks that are described from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission including but not limited to its annual reports on Form 10-K, its quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and its current reports on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and available through the Company's website, which contain a more detailed discussion of the Company's business, including risks and uncertainties that may affect future results. Due to such uncertainties and risks, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Information in this press release may be superseded by more recent information or statements, which may be disclosed in later press releases, subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission or otherwise. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with regard thereto or to reflect any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such forward-looking statements are based, in whole or in part.

Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc.
Unaudited Consolidated Income Statements
(in thousands, except per share amounts)
Three Three Nine Nine

Months Months Months Months
Ended Ended Ended Ended
September September September September
30, 2010 30, 2009 30, 2010 30, 2009
Revenues:
Income recognized on finance
receivables, net $\quad \$ 80,026$ \$ 54,336 \$ 224,897 \$ 159,650
Fee income



commission revenue
(5) For purposes of this ratio, "debt" equals the line of credit balance plus long-term debt
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS For the Quarter Ended

$\begin{aligned} & \text { Estimated remaining } \\ & \text { collections - core }\end{aligned} \$ 934,942 \$ 929,144 \$ 912,423 \$ 893,716$
Estimated remaining
collections - bankruptcy $\quad 734,632 \quad 682,365 \quad 623,706 \quad 521,730$
Estimated remaining
collections - total 1,669,574 1,611,509 1,536,129 1,415,446
ALLOWANCE FOR FINANCE
RECEIVABLES
Balance at period-end $\quad \$ 70,965$ \$ 64,445 \$ 58,125 \$ 51,255
Balance at period-end to net
finance receivables $\quad 8.79 \% \quad 8.31 \% \quad 7.83 \% \quad$ 7.39\%
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Allowance charge } & 6,520 & 6,320 & 6,870 & 9,485\end{array}$
Allowance charge to finance
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { receivable income } & 7.53 \% & 7.59 \% & 9.18 \% & 14.49 \%\end{array}$
Allowance charge to cash
collections
RECEIVABLES
Purchase price - excluding
bankruptcy
Face value - excluding
bankruptcy
\$ 31,831 \$ 42,277 \$ 31,038 \$ 30,514
$588,551 \quad 885,321 \quad 593,139 \quad 915,044$ $\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Face value - bankruptcy try } & 60,687 & 44,505 & 71,582 & 44,592\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllll}\text { Purchase price - total } & 92,518 & 86,782 & 102,620 & 75,106\end{array}$

| Purchase price - total | $\left.\begin{array}{lllll}9,518 & 86,782 & 102,620 & 75,106 \\ \text { Face value - total } & 1,377,518 & 1,667,297 & 1,891,247 & 2,014,721\end{array}\right)$ |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |

$\begin{array}{llllll}\text { Number of portfolios - total } & 68 & 78 & 84 & 101\end{array}$
PER SHARE DATA
Net income per common share -
diluted $\quad \$ 1.08$ \$ 1.14 \$ 0.91 \$ 0.80
Weighted average number of
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { shares outstanding-diluted } & 17,093 & 17,080 & 16,203 & 15,531\end{array}$
Closing market price
RATIOS AND OTHER DATA
Return on average equity (1) $16.04 \% \quad 17.86 \% \quad 15.05 \% \quad 15.03 \%$
Return on revenue (2) $19.63 \% \quad 21.15 \% \quad 17.76 \% \quad 16.96 \%$
Operating margin (3)
Operating expense to cash
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { receipts (4) } & 41.02 \% & 40.62 \% & 42.30 \% & 45.42 \%\end{array}$ Debt to equity (5) 61.80\% 64.78\% $\quad 70.40 \% \quad 95.62 \%$
Cash collections per hour paid:
$\begin{array}{llllllll}\text { Total } & \$ 188 & 200 & \$ & 188 & \$ & 148\end{array}$
Excluding bankruptcy

| collections | $\$$ | 127 | $\$$ | 127 | $\$$ | 135 | $\$$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Excluding bankruptcy and
external legal collections \$ 97 \$ 100 \$ 106 \$ 84

| Number of collectors | 1,422 | 1,384 | 1,379 | 1,325 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Number of employees } & 2,421 & 2,377 & 2,329 & 2,213\end{array}$
Cash receipts (1) \$ 152,895 \$ 144,515 \$ 134,623 \$ 112,540
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Line of credit - unused portion } & 76,500 & 75,500 & 68,700 & 45,700\end{array}$
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS For the Quarter Ended
September
(dollars in thousands) $\qquad$ 2009

EARNINGS
Income recognized on finance
receivables, net \$ 54,336


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