## Press Releases

## Portfolio Recovery Associates Reports Record Fourth Quarter 2010 Results

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NORFOLK, VA, Feb 15, 2011 (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 $\$ 20.6$ million for the quarter ended Dec. 31, 2010.

Net income increased $66 \%$ from $\$ 12.4$ million in the same period a year earlier. Earnings per diluted share were $\$ 1.20$ in the fourth quarter of 2010 , up $50 \%$ from $\$ 0.80$ in the fourth quarter of 2009

In the fourth quarter of 2010, total revenue rose $38 \%$ from the year-earlier period to a record $\$ 100.8$ 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 fourth quarter of 2010 , the Company applied $41.3 \%$ of cash collections to reduce the carrying basis of its owned debt portfolios, the same as in the fourth quarter of 2009 . The fourth quarter 2010 amortization rate included a $\$ 5.4$ million net allowance charge against certain pools of finance receivables accounts.
"Portfolio Recovery Associates concluded 2010 with record financial results, demonstrating exceptional performance across our debt purchasing business despite the stillweakened economy," said Steven D. Fredrickson, chairman, president and chief executive officer. "Our disciplined approach to underwriting together with our consistent and continued efforts to improve the efficiency of our collections operations helped drive record results in cash collections, cash receipts, revenue and earnings both in the fourth quarter and for the full year."

Fredrickson continued: "Importantly, these results stem from the long-term focus we have continuously espoused and the significant investments in both people and technology we have made over a number of years. I am excited to be starting the new year with such strong momentum and a truly great team of employees."

For full year 2010, net income rose $66 \%$ to $\$ 73.5$ million, or $\$ 4.35$ per diluted share, from $\$ 44.3$ million, or $\$ 2.87$ per diluted share, in 2009 . Revenue for 2010 was $\$ 372.7$ million, up 33\% from $\$ 281.1$ million in 2009.

Financial and Operating Highlights
-- Cash collections increased $52 \%$ to a record $\$ 144.4$ million in the fourth quarter of 2010 from $\$ 95.3$ million in the year-ago period. Call center and other collections increased 19\%, external legal collections increased $38 \%$, internal legal collections grew $70 \%$, and purchased bankruptcy collections gained $110 \%$ when compared with the year-earlier period. The table below displays cash collections by source, by quarter for the past five quarters:
Cash Collection Source (\$ in
thousands) Q42010 Q32010 Q22010 Q12010 Q42009
Call Center \& Other
Collections \$53,775 \$51,711 \$54,477\$56,987 \$45,365 $\begin{array}{llllll}\text { External Legal Collections } & 21,446 & 20,217 & 18,819 & 18,276 & 15,496\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { Internal Legal Collections } \quad 12,841 & 12,130 & 11,362 & 10,714 & 7,570\end{array}$ Purchased Bankruptcy $\quad 56,301 \quad 53,319 \quad 43,748 \quad 33,219 \quad 26,855$

Total Cash Collections $\quad \$ 144,363 \$ 137,377 \$ 128,406 \$ 119,196 \$ 95,286$
-- Up $70 \%$ from the prior year, internal legal collections grew to $\$ 12.8$ million in the fourth 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 rose to a record $\$ 194$ for the full year 2010 from $\$ 145$ for all of 2009. Productivity is measured by cash collections per collector 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 full year 2010, compared with $\$ 113$ for all of 2009. Excluding trustee remittances on purchased bankrupt accounts and external legal collections, the comparison is $\$ 100$ for the full year 2010 and $\$ 87$ for all of 2009.
-- In the fourth quarter, revenue was a record $\$ 100.8$ million, up $38 \%$ when compared with the same period a year ago. This was driven by record cash receipts of $\$ 160.3$ million in the fourth quarter, up $42.5 \%$ from $\$ 112.5$ 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 $\$ 5.4$ million in the fourth quarter, representing $0.65 \%$ of net finance receivables at period-end and $3.77 \%$ 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)



| 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 | - | 500 | - | - |
| Q4 07 |  | 190 | - | 615 | 190 | - |
| Q1 08 |  | 120 | 120 | 850 | 700 | - |
| Q2 08 |  | 260 | 705 | - | 1,880 | 650 |
| Q3 08 |  | (90) | (55) | 325 | 1,105 | 2,350 |
| Q4 08 |  | (400) | (250) | 1,490 | - 2,275 | 4,380 |
| Q1 09 |  | (225) | 25 | 1,050 | 860 | 2,300 |
| Q2 09 |  | (230) | (235) | 500 | 765 | 685 |
| Q3 09 |  | (25) | (210) | 1,100 | 1,965 | 340 |
| Q4 09 |  | (120) | - | 1,275 | 1,150 | - |
| Q1 10 |  | - | - | 2,700 | 1,125 | 1,700 |
| Q2 10 |  | - | (50) | 1,575 | 2,100 | 700 |
| Q3 10 |  | - | (50) | 1,650 | 2,150 | 2,150 |
| Q4 10 |  | - | - | 850 | 1,750 | 200 |
| Total | \$ | - \$ | - \$ | 15,915 \$ | 18,015 \$ | 15,455 |

## Portfolio

Purchases, net \$ 203,026 \$ 51,709 \$ 113,870\$ 90,065 \$ 179,840

(\$ in thousands)

|  | Allowance |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Core Portfolio | Purchase Period | Charge as |  |  |
| Allowance Period | 2008 | $2009-2010$ | Total $\%$ of NFR |  |

Portfolio
Purchases, net \$ 166,530\$275,482 \$ 1,080,522

- $==$ = $=====$

The Company purchased $\$ 1.87$ billion of face-value debt during the fourth quarter of 2010 for $\$ 85.5$ million. This was acquired in 75 portfolios from 11 different sellers. For the full year 2010, the company purchased face-value debt totaling $\$ 6.80$ billion for $\$ 367.4$ million, a record level of investment. 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
Total

|  | Total |
| :--- | ---: |
| Net Finance | Estimated |
| Receivables Actual Cash | Collections |

Total Balance at Collections Estimated to
Purchase Purchase Estimated December Including Remaining Purchase
Period Price Collections 31, 2010 Cash Sales Collections Price

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1996 | $\$$ | 3,080 | 10,143 | $\$$ | - |  |
| 1997 | 7,685 | 25,395 | 10,043 | 100 | $329 \%$ |  |
| 1998 | 11,089 | 37,002 | - | 25,122 | 273 | $330 \%$ |
| 1999 | 18,898 | 68,445 | - | 67,165 | 1,280 | $362 \%$ |
| 2000 | 25,020 | 114,019 | - | 110,835 | 3,184 | $456 \%$ |
| 2001 | 33,481 | 171,214 | - | 166,673 | 4,541 | $511 \%$ |
| 2002 | 42,325 | 190,351 |  | 184,432 | 5,919 | $450 \%$ |
| 2003 | 61,448 | 253,276 | - | 243,452 | 9,824 | $412 \%$ |
| 2004 | 59,177 | 188,291 | 157 | 178,628 | 9,663 | $318 \%$ |
| 2005 | 143,171 | 310,837 | 20,756 | 270,650 | 40,187 | $217 \%$ |
| 2006 | 107,713 | 217,381 | 25,880 | 168,966 | 48,415 | $202 \%$ |
| 2007 | 258,397 | 505,826 | 100,180 | 335,138 | 170,688 | $196 \%$ |
| 2008 | 275,145 | 538,136 | 155,587 | 269,588 | 268,548 | $196 \%$ |
| 2009 | 281,583 | 720,932 | 198,715 | 234,745 | 486,187 | $256 \%$ |
| 2010 | 361,843 | 760,876 | 330,055 | 86,562 | 674,314 | $210 \%$ |

Total $\$ 1,690,055 \$ 4,112,124 \$ 831,330 \$ 2,388,606 \$ 1,723,518 \quad 243 \%$

Purchased Bankruptcy Portfolio


Kevin P. Stevenson, chief financial and administrative officer, said: "Portfolio Recovery Associates turned in another strong performance in the fourth quarter, driven largely by cash collections from our sizeable investments in bankruptcy portfolios as well as steady improvements in call center and legal collections. We took steps during the quarter to address the performance of our fee-for-service businesses, which continued to be impacted by the difficult economy. These included some of the same process improvements that have served our debt purchase business so well, and we look forward to seeing these efforts make an impact in the quarters to come."

## Conference Call Information

The Company will hold a conference call with investors tonight, 5:30 p.m. EST, Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011, to discuss its fourth-quarter and full year results. Investors can access the call live by dialing 888-679-8037 for domestic callers or 617-213-4849 for international callers using the pass code 72893346 . 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 617-8016888 for international callers using the pass code 28959430 . 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.
About Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc.
Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc. is the parent of companies whose 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. The Company 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 its consolidated Government Services subsidiaries, 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 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Months | Months | Year | Year |
| Ended | Ended | Ended | Ended |

December December December December
31, 31, 31, 31,
$20102009 \quad 2010$

Revenues:
Income recognized on finance

$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Income before income taxes } & 33,787 & 20,083 & 120,875 & 72,703\end{array}$
Provision for income taxes $\quad 13,156 \quad 7,667 \quad 47,004 \quad 28,397$
Net income $\quad \$ 20,631$ \$ 12,416 \$ 73,871 \$ 44,306
Less net (loss)/income
attributable to
redeemable noncontrolling
interest (14) - 417
Net income attributable to
Portfolio Recovery
Associates, Inc. \$ 20,645 \$ 12,416 \$ 73,454 \$ 44,306


Unaudited Consolidated Summary Balance Sheets
(in thousands, except per share amounts)

| ASSETS | $\begin{array}{cc} \text { December 31, } & \text { December 31, } \\ 2010 & 2009 \end{array}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents |  | \$ 41,094 \$ | \$ 20,265 |
| Finance receivables, net |  | 831,330 | 693,462 |
| Accounts receivable, net |  | 8,932 | 9,169 |
| Income taxes receivable |  | 2,363 | 4,460 |
| Property and equipment, net | $\begin{array}{cc}  & 24,270 \\ 61,678 & 29,299 \end{array}$ |  |  |
| Goodwill |  |  |  |
| Intangible assets, net |  | 18,466 1 | 0,756 |
| Other assets |  | 7,775 5,15 |  |
| Total assets | \$ | 995,908 \$ 794 | 4,433 |

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
Liabilities:
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities $\quad \$ \quad 23,576 \$ 20,948$
Deferred tax liability $\quad 164,971 \quad 23,576$ \$

| Line of credit | 300,000 | 319,300 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Long term debt | 2,396 | 1,499 |

------------------------ $490,943458,953$

Redeemable noncontrolling Interest 14,449

Stockholders' equity:
Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc.
stockholders' equity:
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01, authorized
shares, 2,000 , issued and outstanding
shares -0
Common stock, par value $\$ 0.01$, authorized



| diluted | 17,165 | 15,531 | $11 \%$ | 16,885 | 15,454 | $9 \%$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Closing market |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| price | $\$$ | 75.20 | $\$ 44.85$ | $68 \%$ | $\$$ | 75.20 | $\$$ |
|  | 44.85 | $68 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |

RATIOS AND OTHER
DATA
Return on average
$\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { equity (1) } & 17.09 \% & 15.03 \% & 14 \% & 16.56 \% & 14.16 \% & 17 \%\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}\begin{array}{l}\text { Return on } \\ \text { revenue (2) }\end{array} \quad 20.48 \% & 16.96 \% & 21 \% & 19.82 \% & 15.76 \% & 26 \%\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { Operating margin (3) } 36.00 \% & 30.19 \% & 19 \% & 34.84 \% & 28.68 \% & 21 \%\end{array}$
Operating expense
to cash receipts(4) $40.22 \% \quad 45.42 \% ~-11 \% \quad 41.00 \% \quad 46.25 \% \quad-11 \%$
Debt to equity (5) 61.65\% $\quad 95.62 \% ~-36 \% \quad 61.65 \% \quad 95.62 \% \quad-36 \%$
Cash collections
per collector
hour paid:
$\begin{array}{llllllllll}\text { Total } & \$ & 204 & \$ & 148 & 38 \% & \$ & 194 & \$ & 145\end{array} \quad 34 \%$
Excluding
bankruptcy
collections \$ 129 \$ 109 18\% \$ 129 \$ 113 14\%
Excluding
bankruptcy
and external
legal
collections \$ 98 \$ $84 \quad 17 \%$ \$ 100 \$ $87 \quad 15 \%$
Number of
$\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { collectors } & 1,472 & 1,325 & 11 \% & 1,472 & 1,325 & 11 \%\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}\begin{array}{l}\text { Number of } \\ \text { employees }\end{array} & 2,473 & 2,213 & 12 \% & 2,473 & 2,213 & 12 \%\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllcrll}\text { employees } & 2,473 & 2,213 & 12 \% & 2,473 & 2,213 & 12 \% & \\ \text { Cash receipts (4) } \$ 160,335 & \$ 112,540 & 42 \% & \$ 592,367 & \$ 433,483 & 37 \%\end{array}$
Line of credit -
unused portion
at period end $\quad 107,500 \quad 45,700 \quad 135 \% \quad 107,500 \quad 45,700 \quad 135 \%$
Notes:
(1) Calculated as annualized net income divided by average equity for the period
(2) Calculated as net income divided by total revenues
(3) Calculated as income from operations divided by total revenues
(4) "Cash receipts" is defined as cash collections plus fee income
(5) For purposes of this ratio, "debt" equals the line of credit balance plus long-term debt
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS For the Quarter Ended

collections - total 1,723,518 1,669,574 1,611,509 1,536,129 1,415,446


SOURCE: Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc.

