Edgar Filing: Flaherty & Crumrine PREFERRED SECURITIES INCOME FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

Flaherty & Crumrine PREFERRED SECURITIES INCOME FUND INC Form N-30B-2 April 29, 2013 FLAHERTY & CRUMRINE PREFERRED SECURITIES INCOME FUND

To the Shareholders of Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Securities Income Fund:

The new fiscal year is off to a fine start total return on *net asset value* for the first fiscal quarter² was +4.7%. Over the same period total return based on income plus change in the Fund s *market price* was +5.0%.

With signs of economic improvement trickling in, prices on intermediate and long-term US Treasury bonds fell as much as five percent in the quarter. In contrast, prices on many preferred securities rose. Conditions in the market for preferred securities have been, and remain, positive; credit quality continues to improve, investor demand is high, and the market is shrinking.

Once again redemptions of preferred securities outpaced issuance. Since December 1, 2012, redemptions³ totaled \$30.1 billion. Over the same period, \$16.8 billion of new preferred securities were brought to market. *During the past four months, the preferred securities market has shrunk by \$13.3 billion, or 3.7%*.

It s instructive to break these numbers down between bank and non-bank securities. Since December 1, 2012, redemptions of bank preferred securities have totaled \$17.6 billion, or 44% of total preferred redemptions. Since mid-March, however, bank calls have spiked and comprise over 70% of total redemptions. The pace quickened immediately after regulators announced results from their annual review of capital at large banks. So far, banks have been slow to replace preferred capital new bank issues have totaled a paltry \$3.9 billion since December ^{s1} of last year.

For non-bank companies the decision to call or issue is driven primarily by economics. In the current low interest rate environment, it is often possible for issuers to achieve substantial savings by refinancing. While banks are concerned about expense reduction as well, their decisions about redemption or issuance have been driven mainly by regulatory requirements. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, passed by Congress in 2010, mandated new standards for the amount and form of bank capital. Under the Act, trust preferred securities are being phased out of the calculation of Tier 1 capital. New capital will be either traditional equity or non-cumulative perpetual preferred stock.

As we ve discussed in the past, the wave of refinancing negatively impacts income earned from Fund investments. The current combination of high-yielding portfolio assets and low cost of Fund leverage won t last forever; we attempt to set distribution rates that reflect this situation.

Since our last letter, there have been three related changes to the Fund: a new name, a new shareholder servicing agent and a new website address at <u>www.preferredincome.com</u>. We are pleased to welcome Destra Capital Investments LLC (Destra Capital) as the new shareholder servicing agent. In addition, the Fund changed its name to Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Securities Income Fund Incorporated . We emphasize that Flaherty & Crumrine is still the investment adviser and there has been no change in investment strategies or style.

¹ Following the methodology required by the SEC, total return includes income and principal change, plus the impact of the Fund s leverage and expenses.

- ² December 1, 2012 February 28, 2013
- ³ Announced or implemented.

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As always, we encourage you to visit the Fund s website for important information.

Sincerely,

Donald F. Crumrine

Robert M. Ettinger

President

March 28, 2013

Chairman

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PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

February 28, 2013 (Unaudited)

Fund	Statistics
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Net Asset Value	\$ 19.33
Market Price	\$ 20.23
Premium	4.66%
Yield on Market Price	8.07%
Common Stock Shares Outstanding	43,365,995

Moody s Ratings	% of Net Assets
Α	2.2%
BBB	58.1%
BB	32.0%
Below BB	2.2%
Not Rated*	3.7%
Below Investment Grade**	22.7%

* Does not include net other assets and liabilities of 1.8%.
** Below investment grade by all of Moody s, S&P and Fitch.

Industry Categories

% of Net Assets

Top 10 Holdings by Issuer	% of Net Assets
Liberty Mutual Group	5.5%
Banco Santander, S.A.	4.6%
MetLife	4.3%
HSBC PLC	3.8%
Goldman Sachs Group	3.4%
Barclays Bank PLC	3.1%
Wells Fargo & Company	3.1%
JPMorgan Chase	3.0%
Axis Capital Holdings Ltd	2.9%
XL Group PLC	2.8%

	% of Net Assets***
Holdings Generating Qualified Dividend Income (QDI) for Individuals	41%

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Holdings Generating Income Eligible for the Corporate Dividend Received Deduction (DRD)

*** This does not reflect year-end results or actual tax categorization of Fund distributions. These percentages can, and do, change, perhaps significantly, depending on market conditions. Investors should consult their tax advisor regarding their personal situation. Net Assets includes assets attributable to the use of leverage.

23%

PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

February 28, 2013 (Unaudited)

hares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred Secur		
	Banking 34.6%	
17 750 000	Astoria Financial:	¢ 10 222 427(1)(2)
17,750,000	Astoria Capital Trust I, 9.75% 11/01/29, Series B	\$ 18,322,437 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
0.400.000	Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, S.A.:	
8,490,000	BBVA International Preferred, 5.919%	7,174,050**(1)(3)
	Banco Santander, S.A.:	
2,046,320	Banco Santander, 10.50% Pfd., Series 10	57,649,950**(1)(3)
	Bank of America:	
581,966	Bank of America Corporation, 8.625% Pfd.	14,840,133*(1)
15,000	Countrywide Capital IV, 6.75% Pfd. 04/01/33	382,500
129,025	Countrywide Capital V, 7.00% Pfd. 11/01/36	3,257,881
	Barclays Bank PLC:	
14,750,000	Barclays Bank PLC, 6.278%	14,463,334**(1)(2)(3)
340,600	Barclays Bank PLC, 7.10% Pfd.	8,634,210** ⁽³⁾
23,000	Barclays Bank PLC, 7.75% Pfd., Series 4	583,510** ⁽³⁾
600,000	Barclays Bank PLC, 8.125% Pfd., Series 5	15,264,000**(1)(3)
	BB&T Corp:	
28,000	BB&T Corporation, 5.625% Pfd., Series E	716,520*(1)
	BNP Paribas:	
13,500,000	BNP Paribas, 7.195%, 144A****	14,073,750**(1)(2)(3)
	Citigroup:	
42,000	Citigroup Capital VII, 7.125% Pfd. 07/31/31	1,067,065
341,100	Citigroup Capital XIII, 7.875% Pfd. 10/30/40	9,689,389(1)(2)
	CoBank ACB:	
60,000	CoBank ACB, 6.25% Pfd., 144A****	6,405,000*
	Colonial BancGroup:	
35,100,000	Colonial BancGroup, 7.114%, 144A****	52,650 ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾
	Cullen/Frost Bankers:	
61,850	Cullen/Frost Bankers, Inc., 5.375% Pfd.	1,534,653*
	FBOP Corp:	
28,800	FBOP Corporation, Adj. Rate Pfd., 144A****	$14,400^{*(4)(5)}$
	Fifth Third Bancorp:	
8,785,000	Fifth Third Capital Trust IV, 6.50% 04/15/37	8,828,925 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
	First Horizon:	
3,730	First Tennessee Bank, Adj. Rate Pfd., 3.75% ⁽⁶⁾ , 144A****	2,757,869*
8	FT Real Estate Securities Company, 9.50% Pfd., 144A****	8,805,000
	First Niagara Financial Group:	
642,800	First Niagara Financial Group, Inc., 8.625% Pfd.	$18,867,787^{*(1)}$

PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

February 28, 2013 (Unaudited)

hares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred Sec	urities (Continued)	
I Teleffed See	Banking (Continued)	
	First Republic Bank:	
99,000	First Republic Bank, 6.70% Pfd.	\$ 2,715,818*
	Goldman Sachs Group:	· · · · · · · ·
14,223,700	Goldman Sachs, Capital I, 6.345% 02/15/34	14,938,028(1)(2)
	HSBC PLC:	, ,
7,000,000	HSBC Capital Funding LP, 10.176%, 144A****	9,817,500 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾
714,400	HSBC Holdings PLC, 8.00% Pfd., Series 2	19,861,392**(1)(3)
850,000	HSBC USA Capital Trust I, 7.808% 12/15/26, 144A****	867,000
580,000	HSBC USA Capital Trust II, 8.38% 05/15/27, 144A****	592,330 ⁽¹⁾
361,426	HSBC USA, Inc., 6.50% Pfd., Series H	9,318,032*(1)
	ING Groep NV:	
105,000	ING Groep NV, 6.375% Pfd.	$2,588,250^{**(3)}$
125,000	ING Groep NV, 7.05% Pfd.	$3,170,188^{**(3)}$
116,054	ING Groep NV, 7.20% Pfd.	2,941,099**(3)
130,953	ING Groep NV, 7.375% Pfd.	3,337,992**(1)(3)
91,328	ING Groep NV, 8.50% Pfd.	$2,367,222^{**(3)}$
	JPMorgan Chase:	
56,600	JPMorgan Chase & Company, 5.50% Pfd.	1,416,698*
31,305,000	JPMorgan Chase & Company, 7.90%, Series 1	36,272,258*(1)
	KeyCorp:	
5,000	KeyCorp, 7.75% Pfd., Series A	636,563*
	Lloyds Banking Group PLC:	
17,800,000	Lloyds Banking Group PLC, 6.657%, 144A****	$16,153,500^{**(1)(3)}$
	M&T Bank Corp:	
11,000,000	M&T Bank Corporation, 6.875%, 144A****	$11,557,117^{*(1)}$
	Morgan Stanley:	
40,000	Morgan Stanley Capital Trust VI, 6.60% Pfd. 02/01/46	1,015,000
31,269	Morgan Stanley Capital Trust VII, 6.60% Pfd.	791,418
	PNC Financial Services:	
164,520	PNC Financial Services, 6.6285% ⁽⁶⁾ Adj. Rate Pfd., Series L	4,272,996*(1)
500,000	PNC Preferred Funding Trust III, 8.70%, 144A****	508,791
	Regions Financial:	
60	Union Planters Preferred Funding, 7.75% Pfd., Series A, 144A****	6,054,375
1 000 000	Sovereign Bancorp:	
1,000,000	Sovereign Capital Trust VI, 7.908% 06/13/36	1,042,500
8,641	Sovereign REIT, 12.00% Pfd., Series A, 144A****	11,284,057
15 510	Wells Fargo:	
15,518	Wells Fargo & Company, 7.50% Pfd., Series L	19,682,643* ⁽¹⁾
646,500	Wells Fargo & Company, 8.00% Pfd., Series J	18,788,906*(1)

PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

February 28, 2013 (Unaudited)

hares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred Secu		
	Banking (Continued)	
	Zions Bancorporation:	
519,842	Zions Bancorporation, 7.90% Pfd., Series F	\$ 14,945,458*
150,000	Zions Bancorporation, 9.50% Pfd., Series C	3,877,500*
		434,199,644
	Financial Services 2.0%	
	Ameriprise Financial:	
400,000	Ameriprise Financial, Inc., 7.518% 06/01/66	448,400 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
	Credit Suisse Group:	
8,274,000	Claudius, Ltd Credit Suisse AG, 7.875%, Series B, 144A****	8,822,153 ⁽³⁾
15,000	Credit Suisse Guernsey, 7.90% Pfd.	383,907**(3)
	General Electric Capital Corp:	
1,000,000	GE Capital Trust I, 6.375% 11/15/67	1,056,250
5,500,000	General Electric Capital Corp., 7.125%, Series A	6,362,576*
- , ,	HSBC PLC:	
305,000	HSBC Finance Corporation, 6.36% Pfd., Series B	7,817,608*(1)

Insurance 26.9%