

Main Street Capital CORP
Form N-2/A
July 16, 2015

Use these links to rapidly review the document

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

[INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 16, 2015

Securities Act File No. 333-203147

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Pre-Effective
Amendment No. 1

Main Street Capital Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

1300 Post Oak Boulevard, 8th Floor
Houston, TX 77056
(713) 350-6000

(Address and telephone number, including area code, of principal executive offices)

Vincent D. Foster
President and Chief Executive Officer
Main Street Capital Corporation
1300 Post Oak Boulevard, 8th Floor
Houston, TX 77056

(Name and address of agent for service)

COPIES TO:

Jason B. Beauvais
Senior Vice President, General Counsel,
Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary
Main Street Capital Corporation
1300 Post Oak Boulevard, 8th Floor
Houston, TX 77056

Steven B. Boehm, Esq.
Harry S. Pangas, Esq.
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
700 Sixth St. NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20001-3980
Tel: (202) 383-0100
Fax: (202) 637-3593

**Approximate date of proposed public offering:
From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.**

If any securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box): when declared effective pursuant to section 8(c).

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

| Title of Securities Being Registered | Amount Being Registered | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1) | Amount of Registration Fee |
|---|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share(2) | | | |
| Preferred Stock(2) | | | |
| Subscription Rights(2) | | | |
| Units(2) | | | |
| Debt Securities(3) | | | |
| Warrants(4) | | | |
| Total | \$1,500,000,000 | \$1,500,000,000(5) | \$174,300(6) |

- (1) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee. Pursuant to Rule 457(o) of the rules and regulations under the Securities Act of 1933, which permits the registration fee to be calculated on the basis of the maximum offering price of all the securities listed, the table does not specify by each class information as to the amount to be registered, proposed maximum offering price per unit or proposed maximum aggregate offering price.
- (2) Subject to Note 5 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate amount of common stock, preferred stock, subscription rights or units as may be sold, from time to time.
- (3) Subject to Note 5 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate amount of debt securities as may be sold, from time to time. If any debt securities are issued at an original issue discount, then the offering price shall be in such greater principal amount as shall result in an aggregate price to investors not to exceed \$1,500,000,000.
- (4) Subject to Note 5 below, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate amount of warrants as may be sold, from time to time, representing rights to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities.
- (5) In no event will the aggregate offering price of all securities issued from time to time pursuant to this registration statement exceed \$1,500,000,000.
- (6) Previously paid.

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

Table of Contents

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

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JULY 16, 2015

PROSPECTUS

\$1,500,000,000

**Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Warrants
Subscription Rights
Debt Securities
Units**

We may offer, from time to time in one or more offerings, up to \$1,500,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, warrants representing rights to purchase shares of our common stock, preferred stock, or debt securities, subscription rights, debt securities or units, which we refer to, collectively, as the "securities." Our securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be disclosed in one or more supplements to this prospectus. The offering price per share of our common stock, less any underwriting commissions or discounts, will not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time of the offering, except (i) with the requisite approval of our common stockholders or (ii) under such other circumstances as the Securities and Exchange Commission may permit. We did not seek stockholder authorization to issue common stock at a price below net asset value per share at our 2014 or 2015 Annual Meetings of Stockholders because our common stock price per share has been trading significantly above the current net asset value per share of our common stock, but we may seek such authorization at future Annual Meetings or Special Meetings of Stockholders. Sales of common stock at prices below net asset value per share dilute the interests of existing stockholders, have the effect of reducing our net asset value per share and may reduce our market price per share. In addition, we have received stockholder approval to issue warrants, options or rights to subscribe for, convert to, or purchase shares of our common stock at a price per share below the net asset value per share subject to the applicable requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940. There is no expiration date on our ability to issue such warrants, options, rights or convertible securities based on this stockholder approval. Moreover, continuous sales of common stock below net asset value may have a negative impact on total returns and could have a negative impact on the market price of our shares of common stock. See "Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value."

Shares of closed-end investment companies such as us frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our common stock will trade above, at or below net asset value. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in our common stock.

Our securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our securities, and will disclose any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See "Plan of Distribution." We may not sell any of our securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities, which must be delivered to each purchaser at, or prior to, the earlier of delivery of a confirmation of sale or delivery of the securities.

We are a principal investment firm primarily focused on providing customized debt and equity financing to lower middle market ("LMM") companies and debt capital to middle market ("Middle Market") companies. Our LMM companies generally have annual revenues between \$10 million and \$150 million, and our LMM portfolio investments generally range in size from \$5 million to \$50 million. Our Middle Market investments are made in businesses that are generally larger in size than our LMM portfolio companies, with annual revenues typically between \$150 million and \$1.5 billion, and our Middle Market investments generally range in size from \$3 million to \$15 million.

The LMM and Middle Market securities in which we invest generally would be rated below investment grade if they were rated by rating agencies. Below investment grade securities, which are often referred to as "junk," have predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. They may also be difficult to value and are illiquid.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Our principal investment objective is to maximize our portfolio's total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity and equity related investments, including warrants, convertible securities and other rights to acquire equity securities in a portfolio company.

We are an internally managed, closed-end, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "MAIN." On July 15, 2015, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$32.60 per share, and the net asset value per share of our common stock on March 31, 2015 (the last date prior to the date of this prospectus on which we determined our net asset value per share) was \$21.87.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk, and should be considered highly speculative. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 15 to read about factors you should consider, including the risk of leverage and dilution, before investing in our securities.

This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement contain important information about us that a prospective investor should know before investing in our securities. Please read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement before investing and keep them for future reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This information is available free of charge by contacting us at 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, 8th Floor, Houston, Texas 77056 or by telephone at (713) 350-6000 or on our website at www.mainstreetcapital.com. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider that information to be part of this prospectus. The Securities and Exchange Commission also maintains a website at www.sec.gov that contains such information.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission, nor any other regulatory body, has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2015

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|------------|
| <u>Prospectus Summary</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>Fees and Expenses</u> | <u>13</u> |
| <u>Risk Factors</u> | <u>15</u> |
| <u>Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements</u> | <u>37</u> |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | <u>37</u> |
| <u>Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions</u> | <u>38</u> |
| <u>Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u> | <u>43</u> |
| <u>Selected Financial Data</u> | <u>44</u> |
| <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | <u>46</u> |
| <u>Senior Securities</u> | <u>79</u> |
| <u>Business</u> | <u>80</u> |
| <u>Portfolio Companies</u> | <u>98</u> |
| <u>Management</u> | <u>128</u> |
| <u>Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions</u> | <u>151</u> |
| <u>Control Persons and Principal Stockholders</u> | <u>151</u> |
| <u>Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value</u> | <u>154</u> |
| <u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u> | <u>159</u> |
| <u>Description of Common Stock</u> | <u>160</u> |
| <u>Description of Our Preferred Stock</u> | <u>167</u> |
| <u>Description of Our Warrants</u> | <u>168</u> |
| <u>Description of Our Subscription Rights</u> | <u>170</u> |
| <u>Description of Our Debt Securities</u> | <u>172</u> |
| <u>Description of Our Units</u> | <u>186</u> |
| <u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u> | <u>187</u> |
| <u>Regulation</u> | <u>195</u> |
| <u>Plan of Distribution</u> | <u>201</u> |
| <u>Custodian, Transfer and Distribution Paying Agent and Registrar</u> | <u>202</u> |
| <u>Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices</u> | <u>202</u> |
| <u>Legal Matters</u> | <u>203</u> |
| <u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u> | <u>203</u> |
| <u>Available Information</u> | <u>203</u> |
| <u>Privacy Notice</u> | <u>203</u> |
| <u>Index to Financial Statements</u> | <u>F-1</u> |

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using the "shelf" registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer, from time to time, up to \$1,500,000,000 of our securities on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time we use this prospectus to offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. To the extent required by law, we will amend or supplement the information contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement to reflect any material changes to such information subsequent to the date of the prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement and prior to the completion of any offering pursuant to the prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. Please carefully read this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under "Available Information" and "Risk Factors" before you make an investment decision.

No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus or any accompanying supplement to this prospectus. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representations not contained in this prospectus or

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

any accompanying prospectus supplement as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy any security other than the registered securities to which they relate, nor do they constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate as of the dates on their covers.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read the entire prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully, including the section entitled "Risk Factors." Yield information contained in this prospectus related to debt investments in our investment portfolio is not intended to approximate a return on your investment in us and does not take into account other aspects of our business, including our operating and other expenses, or other costs incurred by you in connection with your investment in us.

Organization

Main Street Capital Corporation ("MSCC") is a principal investment firm primarily focused on providing customized debt and equity financing to lower middle market ("LMM") companies and debt capital to middle market ("Middle Market") companies. The portfolio investments of MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries are typically made to support management buyouts, recapitalizations, growth financings, refinancings and acquisitions of companies that operate in diverse industry sectors. MSCC seeks to partner with entrepreneurs, business owners and management teams and generally provide "one stop" financing alternatives within its LMM portfolio. MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries invest primarily in secured debt investments, equity investments, warrants and other securities of LMM companies based in the United States and in secured debt investments of Middle Market companies generally headquartered in the United States.

MSCC was formed in March 2007 to operate as an internally managed business development company ("BDC") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). MSCC wholly owns several investment funds, including, but not limited to, Main Street Mezzanine Fund, LP ("MSMF") and Main Street Capital II, LP ("MSC II" and, together with MSMF, the "Funds"), and each of their general partners. The Funds are each licensed as a Small Business Investment Company ("SBIC") by the United States Small Business Administration ("SBA"). Because MSCC is internally managed, all of the executive officers and other employees are employed by MSCC. Therefore, MSCC does not pay any external investment advisory fees but instead incurs the operating costs associated with employing investment and portfolio management professionals.

MSC Adviser I, LLC (the "External Investment Manager") was formed in November 2013 as a wholly owned subsidiary of MSCC to provide investment management and other services to parties other than MSCC and its subsidiaries ("External Parties") and receive fee income for such services. MSCC has been granted no-action relief by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to allow the External Investment Manager to register as a registered investment adviser ("RIA") under Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act"). Since the External Investment Manager conducts all of its investment management activities for parties outside of MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries or their portfolio companies, it is accounted for as a portfolio investment of MSCC and is not included as a consolidated subsidiary of MSCC in MSCC's consolidated financial statements.

MSCC has elected to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a regulated investment company ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). As a result, MSCC generally will not pay corporate-level U.S. federal income taxes on any net ordinary income or capital gains that it distributes to its stockholders.

MSCC has certain direct and indirect wholly owned subsidiaries that have elected to be taxable entities (the "Taxable Subsidiaries"). The primary purpose of the Taxable Subsidiaries is to permit MSCC to hold equity investments in portfolio companies which are "pass-through" entities for tax purposes. The External Investment Manager is also a direct wholly owned subsidiary that has elected to be a taxable entity. The Taxable Subsidiaries and the External Investment Manager are each taxed at their normal corporate tax rates based on their taxable income.

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise noted or the context otherwise indicates, the terms "we," "us," "our" and "Main Street" refer to MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries, which include the Funds and the Taxable Subsidiaries.

The following diagram depicts Main Street's organizational structure:

-
- * Each of the Taxable Subsidiaries is directly or indirectly wholly owned by MSCC.
 - ** Accounted for as a portfolio investment at fair value, as opposed to a consolidated subsidiary.

Overview

Our principal investment objective is to maximize our portfolio's total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity and equity related investments, including warrants, convertible securities and other rights to acquire equity securities in a portfolio company. Our LMM companies generally have annual revenues between \$10 million and \$150 million, and our LMM portfolio investments generally range in size from \$5 million to \$50 million. Our Middle Market investments are made in businesses that are generally larger in size than our LMM portfolio companies, with annual revenues typically between \$150 million and \$1.5 billion, and our Middle Market investments generally range in size from \$3 million to \$15 million. Our private loan ("Private Loan") investments are made in businesses that are consistent with the size of companies in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. The structure, terms and conditions for these Private Loan investments are typically consistent with the structure, terms and conditions for the investments made in our LMM portfolio or Middle Market portfolio.

Our other portfolio ("Other Portfolio") investments primarily consist of investments which are not consistent with the typical profiles for our LMM, Middle Market or Private Loan portfolio investments, including investments which may be managed by third parties. In our Other Portfolio, we may incur indirect fees and expenses in connection with investments managed by third parties, such as investments in other investment companies or private funds.

Our external asset management business is conducted through our External Investment Manager. We have entered into an agreement to provide the External Investment Manager with asset management service support in connection with its asset management business generally, and specifically for its relationship with HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"). Through this agreement, we provide management and other services to the External Investment Manager, as well as access to our employees, infrastructure, business relationships, management expertise and capital raising capabilities. In the first quarter of 2014, we began charging the External Investment Manager for these

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

services. Our total expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are net of expenses of \$0.8 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, charged to the External Investment Manager. The External Investment Manager earns management fees based on the assets of the funds under management and may earn incentive fees, or a carried interest, based on the performance of the funds managed.

We seek to fill the financing gap for LMM businesses, which, historically, have had more limited access to financing from commercial banks and other traditional sources. The underserved nature of the LMM creates the opportunity for us to meet the financing needs of LMM companies while also negotiating favorable transaction terms and equity participations. Our ability to invest across a company's capital structure, from secured loans to equity securities, allows us to offer portfolio companies a comprehensive suite of financing options, or a "one stop" financing solution. Providing customized, "one stop" financing solutions is important to LMM portfolio companies. We generally seek to partner directly with entrepreneurs, management teams and business owners in making our investments. Our LMM portfolio debt investments are generally secured by a first lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between five and seven years from the original investment date. We believe that our LMM investment strategy has limited correlation to the broader debt and equity markets.

In addition to our LMM investment strategy, we pursue investments in Middle Market companies. Our Middle Market portfolio investments primarily consist of direct investments in or secondary purchases of interest bearing debt securities in privately held companies that are generally larger in size than the companies included in our LMM portfolio. Our Middle Market portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have an expected duration of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

Our Private Loan portfolio investments primarily consist of investments in interest bearing debt securities in companies that are consistent with the size of the companies included in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments that have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. Our Private Loan portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

The following tables provide a summary of our investments in the LMM, Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 (this information excludes the Other Portfolio investments and the External Investment Manager which are discussed further below):

| | As of March 31, 2015 | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | LMM(a) | Middle Market | Private Loan |
| | (dollars in millions) | | |
| Number of portfolio companies | 68 | 89 | 37 |
| Fair value | \$ 778.3 | \$ 627.8 | \$ 247.7 |
| Cost | \$ 640.7 | \$ 642.8 | \$ 261.8 |
| % of total investments at cost debt | 70.3% | 99.1% | 96.1% |
| % of total investments at cost equity | 29.7% | 0.9% | 3.9% |
| % of debt investments at cost secured by first priority lien | 89.8% | 85.2% | 87.2% |
| Weighted-average annual effective yield(b) | 13.1% | 7.9% | 9.9% |
| Average EBITDA(c) | \$ 5.4 | \$ 95.8 | \$ 12.1 |

(a) At March 31, 2015, we had equity ownership in approximately 94% of our LMM portfolio companies and the average fully diluted equity ownership in those portfolio companies was approximately 36%.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

(b) The weighted-average annual effective yields were computed using the effective interest rates for all debt investments at cost as of March 31, 2015, including amortization of deferred debt origination fees and accretion of original issue discount but excluding fees payable upon repayment of the debt instruments and any debt investments on non-accrual status.

(c) The average EBITDA is calculated using a simple average for the LMM portfolio and a weighted-average for the Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios. These calculations exclude three LMM portfolio companies, one Middle Market portfolio company and five Private Loan portfolio companies as EBITDA is not a meaningful valuation metric for our investments in these portfolio companies.

| | As of December 31, 2014 | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | LMM(a) | Middle Market | Private Loan |
| | (dollars in millions) | | |
| Number of portfolio companies | 66 | 86 | 31 |
| Fair value | \$ 733.2 | \$ 542.7 | \$ 213.0 |
| Cost | \$ 599.4 | \$ 561.8 | \$ 224.0 |
| % of total investments at cost debt | 71.5% | 99.8% | 95.6% |
| % of total investments at cost equity | 28.5% | 0.2% | 4.4% |
| % of debt investments at cost secured by first priority lien | 89.6% | 85.1% | 87.8% |
| Weighted-average annual effective yield(b) | 13.2% | 7.8% | 10.1% |
| Average EBITDA(c) | \$ 5.0 | \$ 77.2 | \$ 18.1 |

(a) At December 31, 2014, we had equity ownership in approximately 95% of our LMM portfolio companies and our average fully diluted equity ownership in those portfolio companies was approximately 35%.

(b) The weighted-average annual effective yields were computed using the effective interest rates for all debt investments at cost as of December 31, 2014, including amortization of deferred debt origination fees and accretion of original issue discount but excluding fees payable upon repayment of the debt instruments and any debt investments on non-accrual status.

(c) The average EBITDA is calculated using a simple average for the LMM portfolio and a weighted average for the Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios. These calculations exclude two LMM portfolio companies, one Middle Market portfolio company and five Private Loan portfolio companies as EBITDA is not a meaningful valuation metric for our investments in these portfolio companies.

As of March 31, 2015, we had Other Portfolio investments in six companies, collectively totaling approximately \$58.7 million in fair value and approximately \$55.6 million in cost basis and which comprised approximately 3.4% of our Investment Portfolio (as defined in "Critical Accounting Policies Basis of Presentation" below). As of December 31, 2014, we had Other Portfolio investments in six companies, collectively totaling approximately \$58.9 million in fair value and approximately \$56.2 million in cost basis and which comprised approximately 3.8% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value.

As previously discussed, the External Investment Manager is a wholly owned subsidiary that is treated as a portfolio investment. As of March 31, 2015, there was no cost basis in this investment and the investment had a fair value of \$24.8 million, which comprised 1.4% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value. As of December 31, 2014, there was no cost basis in this investment and the investment had a fair value of \$15.6 million, which comprised 1.0% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value.

Table of Contents

Our portfolio investments are generally made through MSCC and the Funds. MSCC and the Funds share the same investment strategies and criteria, although they are subject to different regulatory regimes. An investor's return in MSCC will depend, in part, on the Funds' investment returns as they are wholly owned subsidiaries of MSCC.

The level of new portfolio investment activity will fluctuate from period to period based upon our view of the current economic fundamentals, our ability to identify new investment opportunities that meet our investment criteria, and our ability to consummate the identified opportunities. The level of new investment activity, and associated interest and fee income, will directly impact future investment income. In addition, the level of dividends paid by portfolio companies and the portion of our portfolio debt investments on non-accrual status will directly impact future investment income. While we intend to grow our portfolio and our investment income over the long term, our growth and our operating results may be more limited during depressed economic periods. However, we intend to appropriately manage our cost structure and liquidity position based on applicable economic conditions and our investment outlook. The level of realized gains or losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation on our investments will also fluctuate depending upon portfolio activity, economic conditions and the performance of our individual portfolio companies. The changes in realized gains and losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation could have a material impact on our operating results.

Because we are internally managed, we do not pay any external investment advisory fees, but instead incurs the operating costs associated with employing investment and portfolio management professionals itself. We believe that our internally managed structure provides us with a beneficial operating expense structure when compared to other publicly traded and privately held investment firms which are externally managed, and our internally managed structure allows us the opportunity to leverage our non-interest operating expenses as we grow our Investment Portfolio. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, the ratio of our total operating expenses, excluding interest expense, as a percentage of our quarterly average total assets was 1.4% on an annualized basis which is consistent with the ratio on an annualized basis for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and for the year ended December 31, 2014.

The total investment return on our shares of common stock for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was 7.5%, 3.1%, 16.7% and 53.6%, respectively. Total investment return is based on the purchase of our stock at the current market price on the first day and a sale at the current market price on the last day of each period reported and assumes reinvestment of dividends at prices obtained by our dividend reinvestment plan during the period. The return does not reflect any sales load that may be paid by an investor.

During May 2012, we entered into an investment sub-advisory agreement with HMS Adviser, LP ("HMS Adviser"), which is the investment advisor to HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"), a non-publicly traded BDC whose registration statement on Form N-2 was declared effective by the SEC in June 2012, to provide certain investment advisory services to HMS Adviser. In December 2013, after obtaining required no-action relief from the SEC to allow us to own a registered investment adviser, we assigned the sub-advisory agreement to the External Investment Manager since the fees received from such arrangement could otherwise have negative consequences on MSCC's ability to meet the source-of-income requirement necessary for us to maintain our RIC tax treatment. Under the investment sub-advisory agreement, the External Investment Manager is entitled to 50% of the base management fee and the incentive fees earned by HMS Adviser under its advisory agreement with HMS Income. Based upon several fee waiver agreements with HMS Income and HMS Adviser, the External Investment Manager did not begin accruing the base management fee and incentive fees, if any, until January 1, 2014. Beginning January 1, 2015, the External Investment Manager conditionally agreed to waive a limited amount of the base management fee and incentive fees otherwise earned during the year ended December 31, 2015. During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014,

Table of Contents

the External Investment Manager earned \$1.4 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, of management fees (net of fees waived, if any) under the sub-advisory agreement with HMS Adviser.

During April 2014, we received an exemptive order from the SEC permitting co-investments by us and HMS Income in certain negotiated transactions where co-investing would otherwise be prohibited under the 1940 Act. We have made, and in the future intend to continue to make, such co-investments with HMS Income in accordance with the conditions of the order. The order requires, among other things, that we and the External Investment Manager consider whether each such investment opportunity is appropriate for HMS Income and, if it is appropriate, to propose an allocation of the investment opportunity between us and HMS Income. Because the External Investment Manager may receive performance-based fee compensation from HMS Income, this may provide an incentive to allocate opportunities to HMS Income instead of us.

You should be aware that investments in our portfolio companies carry a number of risks including, but not limited to, investing in companies which may have limited operating histories and financial resources and other risks common to investing in below investment grade debt and equity investments in private, smaller companies. Please see "Risk Factors Risks Related to Our Investments" for a more complete discussion of the risks involved with investing in our portfolio companies.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, 8th Floor, Houston, Texas 77056, and our telephone number is (713) 350-6000. We maintain a website at <http://www.mainstreetcapital.com>. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider that information to be part of this prospectus.

Business Strategies

Our principal investment objective is to maximize our portfolio's total return by generating current income from our debt investments and realizing capital appreciation from our equity and equity-related investments, including warrants, convertible securities and other rights to acquire equity securities in a portfolio company. We have adopted the following business strategies to achieve our investment objective. Please see "Business Business Strategies" for a more complete discussion of our business strategies.

Deliver Customized Financing Solutions in the Lower Middle Market. We offer to our LMM portfolio companies customized debt and equity financing solutions that are tailored to the facts and circumstances of each situation.

Focus on Established Companies. We generally invest in companies with established market positions, experienced management teams and proven revenue streams.

Leverage the Skills and Experience of Our Investment Team. Our investment team has significant experience in lending to and investing in LMM and Middle Market companies.

Invest Across Multiple Companies, Industries, Regions and End Markets. We seek to maintain a portfolio of investments that is appropriately balanced among various companies, industries, geographic regions and end markets.

Capitalize on Strong Transaction Sourcing Network. Our investment team seeks to leverage its extensive network of referral sources for portfolio company investments.

Benefit from Lower, Fixed, Long-Term Cost of Capital. The SBIC licenses held by the Funds have allowed them to issue SBA-guaranteed debentures. SBA-guaranteed debentures carry long-term fixed interest rates that are generally lower than interest rates on comparable bank loans and other debt.

Table of Contents

Risk Factors

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should consider carefully the information found in "Risk Factors," including the following risks:

Deterioration in the economy and financial markets increases the likelihood of adverse effects on our financial position and results of operations. Such economic adversity could impair our portfolio companies' financial positions and operating results and affect the industries in which we invest, which could, in turn, harm our operating results.

Our Investment Portfolio is and will continue to be recorded at fair value, with our Board of Directors having final responsibility for overseeing, reviewing and approving, in good faith, our determination of fair value and, as a result, there is and will continue to be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments.

Typically, there is not a public market for the securities of the privately held LMM companies in which we have invested and will generally continue to invest. As a result, we value these securities quarterly at fair value based on inputs from management, a nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm (on a rotational basis) and our audit committee with the oversight, review and approval of our Board of Directors.

In addition, the market for investments in Middle Market companies is generally not a liquid market, and therefore, we primarily use observable inputs to determine the fair value of these investments quarterly through obtaining third party quotes and other independent pricing, which are reviewed by our audit committee with the oversight, review and approval of our Board of Directors.

Our financial condition and results of operations depends on our ability to effectively manage and deploy capital.

We may face increasing competition for investment opportunities.

Regulations governing our operation as a BDC will affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital.

The Funds are licensed by the SBA, and therefore subject to SBA regulations.

Because we borrow money, the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested in us is magnified and may increase the risk of investing in us.

We, through the Funds, issue debt securities guaranteed by the SBA and sold in the capital markets. As a result of its guarantee of the debt securities, the SBA has fixed dollar claims on the assets of the Funds that are superior to the claims of our securities holders.

We will be subject to corporate-level income tax if we are unable to qualify as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

We may not be able to pay distributions to our stockholders, our distributions may not grow over time, and a portion of distributions paid to our stockholders may be a return of capital, which is a distribution of the stockholders' invested capital.

We may have difficulty paying the distributions required to maintain RIC tax treatment under the Code if we recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income, including from amortization of original issue discount, contractual payment-in-kind, or PIK, interest, contractual preferred dividends, or amortization of market discount. Investments structured with these features may represent a higher level of credit risk compared to investments generating income which must be paid in cash on a current basis.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Because we intend to distribute substantially all of our income to our stockholders to maintain our status as a RIC, we will continue to need additional capital to finance our growth, and regulations governing our operation as a BDC will affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital and make distributions.

Stockholders may incur dilution if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or issue securities to subscribe to, convert to or purchase shares of our common stock.

Our investments in portfolio companies involve higher levels of risk, and we could lose all or part of our investment. Investing in our portfolio companies involves a number of significant risks. Among other things, these companies:

may have limited financial resources and may be unable to meet their obligations under their debt instruments that we hold, which may be accompanied by a deterioration in the value of any collateral and a reduction in the likelihood of us realizing any guarantees from subsidiaries or affiliates of our portfolio companies that we may have obtained in connection with our investment, as well as a corresponding decrease in the value of the equity components of our investments;

may have shorter operating histories, narrower product lines, smaller market shares and/or significant customer concentrations than larger businesses, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and market conditions, as well as general economic downturns;

are more likely to depend on the management talents and efforts of a small group of persons; therefore, the death, disability, resignation, termination or significant under-performance of one or more of these persons could have a material adverse impact on our portfolio company and, in turn, on us;

generally have less predictable operating results, may from time to time be parties to litigation, may be engaged in rapidly changing businesses with products subject to a substantial risk of obsolescence, and may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, finance expansion or maintain their competitive position; and

generally have less publicly available information about their businesses, operations and financial condition. We are required to rely on the ability of our management team and investment professionals to obtain adequate information to evaluate the potential returns from investing in these companies. If we are unable to uncover all material information about these companies, we may not make a fully informed investment decision, and may lose all or part of our investment.

Our portfolio companies may incur debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, our investments in such companies.

We are a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and therefore we are not limited with respect to the proportion of our assets that may be invested in securities of a single issuer.

Shares of closed-end investment companies, including BDCs, may trade at a discount to their net asset value.

We may be unable to invest a significant portion of the net proceeds from an offering or from exiting an investment or other capital on acceptable terms, which could harm our financial condition and operating results.

The market price of our securities may be volatile and fluctuate significantly.

Table of Contents

Investment Criteria

Our investment team has identified the following investment criteria that it believes are important in evaluating prospective portfolio companies. Our investment team uses these criteria in evaluating investment opportunities. However, not all of these criteria have been, or will be, met in connection with each of our investments. Please see "Business Investment Criteria" for a more complete discussion of our investment criteria.

Proven Management Team with Meaningful Equity Stake. We look for operationally-oriented management with direct industry experience and a successful track record. In addition, we expect the management team of each LMM portfolio company to have meaningful equity ownership in the portfolio company to better align our respective economic interests.

Established Companies with Positive Cash Flow. We seek to invest in established companies with sound historical financial performance.

Defensible Competitive Advantages/Favorable Industry Position. We primarily focus on companies having competitive advantages in their respective markets and/or operating in industries with barriers to entry, which may help to protect their market position and profitability.

Exit Alternatives. We exit our debt investments primarily through the repayment of our investment from internally generated cash flow of the portfolio company and/or a refinancing. In addition, we seek to invest in companies whose business models and expected future cash flows may provide alternate methods of repaying our investment, such as through a strategic acquisition by other industry participants or a recapitalization.

Recent Developments

In April 2015, we declared a semi-annual supplemental cash dividend of \$0.275 per share payable in June 2015. The semi-annual supplemental dividend is unchanged from the semi-annual supplemental dividend paid in June 2014. This supplemental cash dividend is in addition to the previously announced regular monthly cash dividends that we declared for the second quarter of 2015 of \$0.175 per share for each of April, May and June 2015.

In April 2015, we fully exited our investment in California Healthcare Medical Billing, Inc. ("CHMB"), a provider of outsourced medical billing, revenue cycle management, practice management and electronic health record (EHR) solutions to physicians, clinics, hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. We made our initial investment in CHMB in October 2008, and realized a gain of approximately \$3.3 million on the redemption of our equity and warrant positions by CHMB.

In April 2015, we amended the Credit Facility to increase total commitments from \$572.5 million to \$597.5 million and increase the accordion feature of the Credit Facility from \$650.0 million to \$750.0 million. The \$25.0 million increase in total commitments was the result of a commitment increase by one of the existing lenders in the facility. The recent increase in total commitments was executed under the accordion feature of the Credit Facility which allows for an increase in total commitments under the facility up to \$750.0 million from new and existing lenders on the same terms and conditions as the existing commitments.

During May 2015, we declared regular monthly dividends of \$0.175 per share for each month of July, August and September of 2015. These regular monthly dividends equal a total of \$0.525 per share for the third quarter of 2015 and represent a 6.1% increase from the regular monthly dividends declared for the third quarter of 2014. Including the regular monthly dividends declared for the third quarter of 2015 and the semi-annual supplemental dividend payable in June 2015, we will have paid \$15.065 per share in cumulative dividends since our October 2007 initial public offering.

In June 2015, we led a new portfolio investment totaling \$48.0 million of invested capital in a leading full service restaurant company that offers a variety of authentic Italian foods, with Main Street

Table of Contents

funding \$28.8 million of the investment. Our investment included a combination of first-lien, senior secured term debt and a direct equity investment. The company, headquartered in the Southeast, has multiple company owned locations located throughout the United States and various franchised locations globally.

In July 2015, we led a new portfolio investment totaling \$17.4 million of invested capital in HW Temps LLC ("HW"), with Main Street funding \$13.9 million of the investment. Our investment in HW included a first-lien, senior secured term debt investment and a preferred equity investment. We and our co-investor partnered to facilitate a recapitalization of HW and to support the HW's growth initiatives. In addition, we and our co-investor are providing HW an undrawn credit facility to support its future growth initiatives and working capital needs. Headquartered in South Easton, Massachusetts and founded in 1980, HW provides temporary staffing and related services primarily to employers in the light industrial, manufacturing, and distribution industries.

The Offering

We may offer, from time to time, up to \$1,500,000,000 of our securities, on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. Our securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be disclosed in one or more prospectus supplements.

Our securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers by us or through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the offering will disclose the terms of the offering, including the name or names of any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our securities by us, the purchase price, and any fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See "Plan of Distribution." We may not sell any of our securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our securities.

Set forth below is additional information regarding the offering of our securities:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Use of proceeds | We intend to use the net proceeds from any offering to make investments in accordance with our investment objective and strategies described in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, to make investments in marketable securities and idle funds investments, which may include investments in secured intermediate term bank debt, rated debt securities and other income producing investments, to pay our operating expenses and other cash obligations, and for general corporate purposes. See "Use of Proceeds." |
| New York Stock Exchange symbols | "MAIN" (common stock); and "MSCA" (6.125% notes due 2023). |
| Dividends and distributions | We currently pay regular monthly dividends and semi-annual supplemental dividends to our stockholders. Our monthly dividends, if any, will be determined by our Board of Directors on a quarterly basis. Our semi-annual supplemental dividends, if any, will be determined by our Board of Directors based upon our undistributed taxable income. Our ability to declare dividends depends on our earnings, our overall financial condition (including our liquidity position), maintenance of our RIC status and such other factors as our Board of Directors may deem relevant from time to time. |

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| | <p>When we make distributions, we are required to determine the extent to which such distributions are paid out of current or accumulated earnings, recognized capital gains or capital. To the extent there is a return of capital (a distribution of the stockholders' invested capital), investors will be required to reduce their basis in our stock for federal tax purposes. In the future, our distributions may include a return of capital.</p> |
| Taxation | <p>MSCC has elected to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. Accordingly, we generally will not pay corporate-level U.S. federal income taxes on any net ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To maintain our qualification as a RIC for U.S. federal income taxes purposes, we must meet specified source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our net ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a tax year, we may choose to carry forward taxable income in excess of current year distributions into the next tax year and pay a 4% U.S. federal excise tax on such income. Any such carryover taxable income must be distributed through a dividend declared prior to filing the final tax return related to the year which generated such taxable income. See "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."</p> |
| Dividend reinvestment plan | <p>We have adopted a dividend reinvestment plan that provides for the reinvestment of dividends on behalf of our registered stockholders who hold their shares with American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, the plan administrator and our transfer agent and registrar, or certain brokerage firms that have elected to participate in our dividend reinvestment plan, unless a stockholder has elected to receive dividends in cash. As a result, if we declare a cash dividend, our registered stockholders (or stockholders holding shares through participating brokerage firms) who have not "opted out" of our dividend reinvestment plan by the dividend record date will have their cash dividend automatically reinvested into additional shares of our common stock.</p> <p>Stockholders who receive dividends in the form of stock will be subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their dividends in cash. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."</p> |
| Trading at a discount | <p>Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. This risk is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our shares will trade above, at or below net asset value.</p> |

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| Sales of common stock below net asset value | <p>The offering price per share of our common stock, less any underwriting commissions or discounts, will not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time of the offering, except (i) with the requisite approval of our common stockholders or (ii) under such other circumstances as the Securities and Exchange Commission may permit. In addition, we cannot issue shares of our common stock below net asset value unless our Board of Directors determines that it would be in our and our stockholders' best interests to do so. We did not seek stockholder authorization to issue common stock at a price below net asset value per share at our 2014 or 2015 Annual Meetings of Stockholders because our common stock price per share has been trading significantly above the current net asset value per share of our common stock, but we may seek such authorization at future Annual Meetings or Special Meetings of Stockholders.</p> <p>In addition, we have received stockholder approval to issue warrants, options or rights to subscribe for, convert to, or purchase shares of our common stock at a price per share below the net asset value per share subject to the applicable requirements of the 1940 Act. There is no expiration date on our ability to issue such warrants, options, rights or convertible securities based on this stockholder approval.</p> <p>Sales by us of our common stock at a discount from our net asset value pose potential risks for our existing stockholders whether or not they participate in the offering, as well as for new investors who participate in the offering. See "Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value."</p> |
| Available Information | <p>We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the "Exchange Act." You can inspect any materials we file with the SEC, without charge, at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. The information we file with the SEC is available free of charge by contacting us at 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, 8th Floor, Houston, TX 77056, by telephone at (713) 350-6000 or on our website at http://www.mainstcapital.com. The SEC also maintains a website that contains reports, proxy statements and other information regarding registrants, including us, that file such information electronically with the SEC. The address of the SEC's website is http://www.sec.gov. Information contained on our website or on the SEC's website about us is not incorporated into this prospectus, and you should not consider information contained on our website or on the SEC's website to be part of this prospectus.</p> |

Table of Contents**FEES AND EXPENSES**

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that an investor in this offering will bear directly or indirectly. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by "you," "us" or "Main Street," or that "we" will pay fees or expenses, stockholders will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as investors in us.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| <i>Stockholder Transaction Expenses:</i> | |
| Sales load (as a percentage of offering price) | %(1) |
| Offering expenses (as a percentage of offering price) | %(2) |
| Dividend reinvestment plan expenses | %(3) |
| Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price) | %(4) |
| <i>Annual Expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock):</i> | |
| Operating expenses | 2.34%(5) |
| Interest payments on borrowed funds | 2.90%(6) |
| Income tax expense | 0.58%(7) |
| Acquired fund fees and expenses | 0.49%(8) |
| Total annual expenses | 6.31% |

- (1) In the event that our securities are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will disclose the applicable sales load.
- (2) In the event that we conduct an offering of our securities, a corresponding prospectus supplement will disclose the estimated offering expenses.
- (3) The expenses of administering our dividend reinvestment plan are included in operating expenses.
- (4) Total stockholder transaction expenses may include sales load and will be disclosed in a future prospectus supplement, if any.
- (5) Operating expenses in this table represent the estimated expenses of MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries, including the Internal Investment Manager.
- (6) Interest payments on borrowed funds represent our estimated annual interest payments on borrowed funds based on current debt levels as adjusted for projected increases (but not decreases) in debt levels over the next twelve months.
- (7) Income tax expense relates to the accrual of (a) deferred tax provision (benefit) on the net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from portfolio investments held in Taxable Subsidiaries and (b) excise, state and other taxes. Deferred taxes are non-cash in nature and may vary significantly from period to period. We are required to include deferred taxes in calculating our annual expenses even though deferred taxes are not currently payable or receivable. Due to the variable nature of deferred tax expense, which can be a large portion of the income tax expense, and the difficulty in providing an estimate for future periods, this income tax expense estimate is based upon the actual amount of income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2014.
- (8) Acquired fund fees and expenses represent the estimated indirect expense incurred due to investments in other investment companies and private funds.

Table of Contents

Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed we would have no additional leverage and that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above. In the event that shares to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will restate this example to reflect the applicable sales load.

| | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a 5.0% annual return | \$ 63 | \$ 186 | \$ 305 | \$ 591 |

The example and the expenses in the table above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5.0% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5.0%. In addition, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends at net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock, determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to a participant by (i) the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the dividend payment date in the event that we use newly issued shares to satisfy the share requirements of the dividend reinvestment plan or (ii) the average purchase price of all shares of common stock purchased by the administrator of the dividend reinvestment plan in the event that shares are purchased in the open market to satisfy the share requirements of the dividend reinvestment plan, which may be at, above or below net asset value. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan" for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves a number of significant risks. In addition to the other information contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, you should consider carefully the following information before making an investment in our securities. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or not presently deemed material by us might also impair our operations and performance. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, our net asset value and the trading price of our common stock could decline or the value of our other securities may decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

RISKS RELATING TO ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Deterioration in the economy and financial markets increases the likelihood of adverse effects on our financial position and results of operations. Such economic adversity could impair our portfolio companies' financial positions and operating results and affect the industries in which we invest, which could, in turn, harm our operating results.

The broader fundamentals of the United States economy remain mixed, and unemployment remains uncertain. In the event that the United States economy contracts, it is likely that the financial results of small to mid-sized companies, like those in which we invest, could experience deterioration or limited growth from current levels, which could ultimately lead to difficulty in meeting their debt service requirements and an increase in defaults. Consequently, we can provide no assurance that the performance of certain portfolio companies will not be negatively impacted by economic cycles or other conditions, which could also have a negative impact on our future results.

Although we have been able to secure access to additional liquidity, including through the Credit Facility, periodic follow-on equity offerings, public debt issuances and the leverage available through the SBIC program, the potential for volatility in the debt and equity capital markets provides no assurance that debt or equity capital will be available to us in the future on favorable terms, or at all. Further, if the price of our common stock falls below our net asset value per share, we will be limited in our ability to sell new shares if we do not have stockholder authorization to sell shares at a price below net asset value per share. We did not seek stockholder authorization to sell shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value per share at our 2014 or 2015 annual meetings of stockholders because our common stock price per share has been trading significantly above the current net asset value per share of our common stock. As such, we do not currently have such stockholder authorization.

RISKS RELATING TO OUR BUSINESS AND STRUCTURE

Our Investment Portfolio is and will continue to be recorded at fair value, with our Board of Directors having final responsibility for overseeing, reviewing and approving, in good faith, our determination of fair value and, as a result, there is and will continue to be uncertainty as to the value of our portfolio investments.

Under the 1940 Act, we are required to carry our portfolio investments at market value or, if there is no readily available market value, at fair value as determined by us with our Board of Directors having final responsibility for overseeing, reviewing and approving, in good faith, our determination of fair value and our valuation procedures. Typically, there is not a public market for the securities of the privately held LMM companies in which we have invested and will generally continue to invest. As a result, we value these securities quarterly at fair value based on inputs from management, a nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm (on a rotational basis) and our audit committee with the oversight, review and approval of our Board of Directors. In addition, the market for investments in Middle Market companies is generally not a liquid market, and therefore, we primarily use observable inputs to determine the fair value of these investments quarterly through obtaining third

Table of Contents

party quotes and other independent pricing, which are reviewed by our audit committee with the oversight, review and approval of our Board of Directors. See "Business Determination of Net Asset Value and Investment Portfolio Valuation Process" for a more detailed description of our valuation process.

The determination of fair value and consequently, the amount of unrealized gains and losses in our portfolio, are to a certain degree, subjective and dependent on a valuation process approved by our Board of Directors. Certain factors that may be considered in determining the fair value of our investments include external events, such as private mergers, sales and acquisitions involving comparable companies. Because such valuations, and particularly valuations of private securities and private companies, are inherently uncertain, may fluctuate over short periods of time and may be based on estimates, our determinations of fair value may differ materially from the values that would have been used if a ready market for these securities existed. Due to this uncertainty, our fair value determinations may cause our net asset value on a given date to materially understate or overstate the value that we may ultimately realize on one or more of our investments. As a result, investors purchasing our securities based on an overstated net asset value would pay a higher price than the value of our investments might warrant. Conversely, investors selling our securities during a period in which the net asset value understates the value of our investments may receive a lower price for their securities than the value of our investments might warrant.

Our financial condition and results of operations depends on our ability to effectively manage and deploy capital.

Our ability to achieve our investment objective of maximizing our portfolio's total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity and equity-related investments, including warrants, convertible securities and other rights to acquire equity securities in a portfolio company, depends on our ability to effectively manage and deploy capital, which depends, in turn, on our investment team's ability to identify, evaluate and monitor, and our ability to finance and invest in, companies that meet our investment criteria.

Accomplishing our investment objective on a cost-effective basis is largely a function of our investment team's handling of the investment process, its ability to provide competent, attentive and efficient services and our access to investments offering acceptable terms. In addition to monitoring the performance of our existing investments, members of our investment team are also called upon, from time to time, to provide managerial assistance to some of our portfolio companies. These demands on their time may distract them or slow the rate of investment.

Even if we are able to grow and build upon our investment operations, any failure to manage our growth effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. The results of our operations will depend on many factors, including the availability of opportunities for investment, readily accessible short and long-term funding alternatives in the financial markets and economic conditions. Furthermore, if we cannot successfully operate our business or implement our investment policies and strategies as described herein, it could negatively impact our ability to pay dividends.

We may face increasing competition for investment opportunities.

We compete for investments with other investment funds (including private equity funds, mezzanine funds, BDCs, and SBICs), as well as traditional financial services companies such as commercial banks and other sources of funding. Many of our competitors are substantially larger and have considerably greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of capital and access to funding sources that are not available to us. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments than

Table of Contents

we have. These characteristics could allow our competitors to consider a wider variety of investments, establish more relationships and offer better pricing and more flexible structuring than we are able to do. We may lose investment opportunities if we do not match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure. If we are forced to match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure, we may not be able to achieve acceptable returns on our investments or may bear substantial risk of capital loss. A significant part of our competitive advantage stems from the fact that the market for investments in LMM companies is underserved by traditional commercial banks and other financing sources. A significant increase in the number and/or the size of our competitors in this target market could force us to accept less attractive investment terms. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us as a BDC.

We are dependent upon our key investment personnel for our future success.

We depend on the members of our investment team, particularly Vincent D. Foster, Dwayne L. Hyzak, Curtis L. Hartman, David L. Magdol, Travis L. Haley, Nicholas T. Meserve, and Rodger A. Stout for the identification, review, final selection, structuring, closing and monitoring of our investments. These employees have significant investment expertise and relationships that we rely on to implement our business plan. Although we have entered into a non-compete agreement with Mr. Foster, we have no guarantee that he or any other employees will remain employed with us. If we lose the services of these individuals, we may not be able to operate our business as we expect, and our ability to compete could be harmed, which could cause our operating results to suffer.

Our success depends on attracting and retaining qualified personnel in a competitive environment.

Our growth will require that we retain new investment and administrative personnel in a competitive market. Our ability to attract and retain personnel with the requisite credentials, experience and skills depends on several factors including, but not limited to, our ability to offer competitive wages, benefits and professional growth opportunities. Many of the entities, including investment funds (such as private equity funds and mezzanine funds) and traditional financial services companies, with which we compete for experienced personnel have greater resources than we have.

The competitive environment for qualified personnel may require us to take certain measures to ensure that we are able to attract and retain experienced personnel. Such measures may include increasing the attractiveness of our overall compensation packages, altering the structure of our compensation packages through the use of additional forms of compensation, or other steps. The inability to attract and retain experienced personnel would have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our business model depends to a significant extent upon strong referral relationships, and our inability to maintain or develop these relationships, as well as the failure of these relationships to generate investment opportunities, could adversely affect our business.

We expect that members of our management team will maintain their relationships with intermediaries, financial institutions, investment bankers, commercial bankers, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, consultants and other individuals within our network, and we will rely to a significant extent upon these relationships to provide us with potential investment opportunities. If our management team fails to maintain its existing relationships or develop new relationships with sources of investment opportunities, we will not be able to grow our Investment Portfolio. In addition, individuals with whom members of our management team have relationships are not obligated to provide us with investment opportunities, and, therefore, there is no assurance that such relationships will generate investment opportunities for us.

Table of Contents

There are significant potential conflicts of interest which could impact our investment returns.

Our executive officers and employees, through the External Investment Manager, may manage other investment funds that operate in the same or a related line of business as we do. Accordingly, they may have obligations to such other entities, the fulfillment of which obligations may not be in the best interests of us or our stockholders. During May 2012, we entered into an investment sub-advisory agreement with HMS Adviser, LP ("HMS Adviser"), which is the investment advisor to HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"), a non publicly-traded BDC whose registration statement on Form N-2 was declared effective by the SEC in June 2012, to provide certain investment advisory services to HMS Adviser. In December 2013, after obtaining required no-action relief from the SEC to allow us to own a registered investment adviser, we assigned the sub-advisory agreement to the External Investment Manager since the fees received from such arrangement could otherwise have negative consequences on our ability to meet the source-of-income requirement necessary for us to maintain our RIC tax treatment. Under the investment sub-advisory agreement, the External Investment Manager is entitled to 50% of the base management fee and the incentive fees earned by HMS Adviser under its advisory agreement with HMS Income. We and the External Investment Manager agreed to waive all such fees from the effective date of HMS Adviser's registration statement on Form N-2 through December 31, 2013. As a result, as of December 31, 2013, neither we nor the External Investment Manager had received any base management fee or incentive fees under the investment sub-advisory agreement and neither was due any unpaid compensation for any base management fee or incentive fees under the investment sub-advisory agreement through December 31, 2013. The External Investment Manager has not waived the base management or incentive fees after December 31, 2013 and, as a result, began accruing such fees on January 1, 2014. The sub-advisory relationship requires us to commit resources to achieving HMS Income's investment objective, while such resources were previously solely devoted to achieving our investment objective. Our investment objective and investment strategies are very similar to those of HMS Income and it is likely that an investment appropriate for us or HMS Income would be appropriate for the other entity. As a result, we and HMS Income requested an exemptive order from the SEC permitting co-investments by us and HMS Income in certain negotiated transactions where our co-investing would otherwise be prohibited under the 1940 Act. The SEC granted the exemptive order in April 2014, and we have made, and in the future intend to continue to make, such co-investments with HMS Income in accordance with the conditions of the order. The order requires, among other things, that we and the External Investment Manager consider whether each such investment opportunity is appropriate for HMS Income and, if it is appropriate, to propose an allocation of the investment opportunity between us and HMS Income. As a consequence, it may be more difficult for us to maintain or increase the size of our Investment Portfolio in the future. Although we will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, including in accordance with the conditions set forth in the exemptive order issued by the SEC when relying on such order, we may face conflicts in allocating investment opportunities between us and HMS Income. Because the External Investment Manager may receive performance-based fee compensation from HMS Income, this may provide an incentive to allocate opportunities to HMS Income instead of us. We have implemented an allocation policy to ensure the equitable distribution of investment opportunities and, as a result, may be unable to participate in certain investments based upon such allocation policy.

Table of Contents

Regulations governing our operation as a BDC will affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital.

Our business will require capital to operate and grow. We may acquire such additional capital from the following sources:

Senior Securities. We may issue debt securities or preferred stock and/or borrow money from banks or other financial institutions, which we refer to collectively as senior securities. As a result of issuing senior securities, we will be exposed to additional risks, including the following:

Under the provisions of the 1940 Act, we are permitted, as a BDC, to issue senior securities only in amounts such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 200% immediately after each issuance of senior securities. If the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this test. If that happens, we will be prohibited from issuing debt securities or preferred stock and/or borrowing money from banks or other financial institutions and may not be permitted to declare a dividend or make any distribution to stockholders or repurchase shares until such time as we satisfy this test.

Any amounts that we use to service our debt or make payments on preferred stock will not be available for dividends to our common stockholders.

It is likely that any senior securities or other indebtedness we issue will be governed by an indenture or other instrument containing covenants restricting our operating flexibility. Additionally, some of these securities or other indebtedness may be rated by rating agencies, and in obtaining a rating for such securities and other indebtedness, we may be required to abide by operating and investment guidelines that further restrict operating and financial flexibility.

We and, indirectly, our stockholders will bear the cost of issuing and servicing such securities and other indebtedness.

Preferred stock or any convertible or exchangeable securities that we issue in the future may have rights, preferences and privileges more favorable than those of our common stock, including separate voting rights and could delay or prevent a transaction or a change in control to the detriment of the holders of our common stock.

Additional Common Stock. We are not generally able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below net asset value per share. We may, however, sell our common stock, warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the current net asset value of the common stock if our Board of Directors determines that such sale is in the best interests of our stockholders, and our stockholders approve such sale. See " Stockholders may incur dilution if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or issue securities to subscribe to, convert to or purchase shares of our common stock" for a discussion of the risks related to us issuing shares of our common stock below net asset value. Our stockholders have authorized us to issue warrants, options or rights to subscribe for, convert to, or purchase shares of our common stock at a price per share below the net asset value per share, subject to the applicable requirements of the 1940 Act. There is no expiration date on our ability to issue such warrants, options, rights or convertible securities based on this stockholder approval. If we raise additional funds by issuing more common stock or senior securities convertible into, or exchangeable for, our common stock, the percentage ownership of our stockholders at that time would decrease, and they may experience dilution. Moreover, we can offer no assurance that we will be able to issue and sell additional equity securities in the future, on favorable terms or at all.

Table of Contents

The Funds are licensed by the SBA, and therefore subject to SBA regulations.

The Funds, our wholly owned subsidiaries, are licensed to act as SBICs and are regulated by the SBA. The SBA also places certain limitations on the financing terms of investments by SBICs in portfolio companies and prohibits SBICs from providing funds for certain purposes or to businesses in a few prohibited industries. Compliance with SBA requirements may cause the Funds to forego attractive investment opportunities that are not permitted under SBA regulations.

Further, the SBA regulations require that a licensed SBIC be periodically examined and audited by the SBA to determine its compliance with the relevant SBA regulations. The SBA prohibits, without prior SBA approval, a "change of control" of an SBIC or transfers that would result in any person (or a group of persons acting in concert) owning 10% or more of a class of capital stock of a licensed SBIC. If the Funds fail to comply with applicable SBIC regulations, the SBA could, depending on the severity of the violation, limit or prohibit their use of SBIC debentures, declare outstanding SBIC debentures immediately due and payable, and/or limit them from making new investments. In addition, the SBA can revoke or suspend a license for willful or repeated violation of, or willful or repeated failure to observe, any provision of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder. Such actions by the SBA would, in turn, negatively affect us.

Because we borrow money, the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested in us is magnified and may increase the risk of investing in us.

Borrowings, also known as leverage, magnify the potential for loss on investments in our indebtedness and gain or loss on investments in our equity capital. As we use leverage to partially finance our investments, you will experience increased risks of investing in our securities. We, through the Funds, issue debt securities guaranteed by the SBA and sold in the capital markets. As a result of its guarantee of the debt securities, the SBA has fixed dollar claims on the assets of the Funds that are superior to the claims of our securities holders. We may also borrow from banks and other lenders, including under our Credit Facility, and may issue debt securities or enter into other types of borrowing arrangements in the future. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Capital Resources" for a discussion regarding our outstanding indebtedness. If the value of our assets decreases, leveraging would cause net asset value to decline more sharply than it otherwise would have had we not leveraged our business. Similarly, any decrease in our income would cause net investment income to decline more sharply than it would have had we not leveraged our business. Such a decline could negatively affect our ability to pay common stock dividends, scheduled debt payments or other payments related to our securities. Use of leverage is generally considered a speculative investment technique.

As of March 31, 2015, we, through the Funds, had \$225.0 million of outstanding indebtedness guaranteed by the SBA, which had a weighted average annualized interest cost of approximately 4.2% (exclusive of deferred financing costs). The debentures guaranteed by the SBA have a maturity of ten years, with a current weighted average remaining maturity of 6.3 years as of March 31, 2015, and require semi-annual payments of interest. We will need to generate sufficient cash flow to make required interest payments on the debentures. If we are unable to meet the financial obligations under the debentures, the SBA, as a creditor, will have a superior claim to the assets of the Funds over our stockholders in the event we liquidate or the SBA exercises its remedies under such debentures as the result of a default by us.

In addition, as of March 31, 2015, we had \$164.0 million outstanding under our Credit Facility. Borrowings under the Credit Facility bear interest, subject to our election, on a per annum basis equal to (i) the applicable LIBOR rate (0.17% as of March 31, 2015) plus 2.00%, as long as we maintain an investment grade rating (or 2.25% if we do not maintain an investment grade rating) or (ii) the applicable base rate (Prime Rate of 3.25% as of March 31, 2015) plus 1.00%, as long as we maintain

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

an investment grade rating (or 1.25% if we do not maintain an investment grade rating). We pay unused commitment fees of 0.25% per annum on the unused lender commitments under the Credit Facility. If we are unable to meet the financial obligations under the Credit Facility, the Credit Facility lending group will have a superior claim to the assets of MSCC and its subsidiaries (excluding the assets of the Funds) over our stockholders in the event we liquidate or the lending group exercises its remedies under the Credit Facility as the result of a default by us.

In April 2013, we issued \$92.0 million in aggregate principal amount of 6.125% Notes due 2023 (the "6.125% Notes"). As of March 31, 2015, the outstanding balance of the 6.125% Notes was \$90.8 million. The 6.125% Notes are unsecured obligations and rank pari passu with our current and future senior unsecured indebtedness; senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly provides it is subordinated to the 6.125% Notes; effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness, to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including borrowings under our Credit Facility; and structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of any of our subsidiaries, including without limitation, the indebtedness of the Funds. The 6.125% Notes mature on April 1, 2023, and may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at our option on or after April 1, 2018. The 6.125% Notes bear interest at a rate of 6.125% per year.

In November 2014, we issued \$175.0 million in aggregate principal amount of 4.50% unsecured notes due 2019 (the "4.50% Notes" and, together with the 6.125% Notes, the "Notes") at an issue price of 99.53%. As of March 31, 2015, the outstanding balance of the 4.50% Notes was \$175.0 million. The 4.50% Notes are unsecured obligations and rank pari passu with our current and future senior unsecured indebtedness; senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly provides it is subordinated to the 4.50% Notes; effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness, to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including borrowings under our Credit Facility; and structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of any of our subsidiaries, including without limitation, the indebtedness of the Funds. The 4.50% Notes mature on December 1, 2019, and may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time at our option subject to certain make whole provisions.

Illustration. The following table illustrates the effect of leverage on returns from an investment in our common stock assuming various annual returns, net of expenses. The calculations in the table below are hypothetical and actual returns may be higher or lower than those appearing below.

Assumed Return on Our Portfolio(1) (net of expenses)

| | (10.0)% | (5.0)% | 0.0% | 5.0% | 10.0% |
|---|---------|---------|--------|------|-------|
| Corresponding net return to common stockholder(2) | (19.4)% | (11.0)% | (2.5)% | 5.9% | 14.4% |

(1) Assumes \$1.8 billion in total assets, \$654.8 million in debt outstanding, \$1,083.9 million in net assets, and a weighted average interest rate of 4.2%. Actual interest payments may be different.

(2) In order for us to cover our annual interest payments on indebtedness, we must achieve annual returns on our March 31, 2015 total assets of at least 1.5%.

Our ability to achieve our investment objective may depend in part on our ability to access additional leverage on favorable terms by issuing debentures guaranteed by the SBA through the Funds, by borrowing from banks or insurance companies or by issuing other debt securities and there can be no assurance that such additional leverage can in fact be achieved.

Table of Contents

All of our assets are subject to security interests under our secured Credit Facility or subject to a superior claim over our stockholders by the SBA and if we default on our obligations under the Credit Facility or with respect to our SBA-guaranteed debentures, we may suffer adverse consequences, including foreclosure on our assets.

Substantially all of our assets are currently pledged as collateral under our Credit Facility or are subject to a superior claim over our stockholders by the SBA. If we default on our obligations under the Credit Facility or our SBA-guaranteed debentures, the lenders and/or the SBA may have the right to foreclose upon and sell, or otherwise transfer, the collateral subject to their security interests or their superior claim. In such event, we may be forced to sell our investments to raise funds to repay our outstanding borrowings in order to avoid foreclosure and these forced sales may be at times and at prices we would not consider advantageous. Moreover, such deleveraging of our company could significantly impair our ability to effectively operate our business in the manner in which we have historically operated. As a result, we could be forced to curtail or cease new investment activities and lower or eliminate the dividends that we have historically paid to our stockholders. In addition, if the lenders exercise their right to sell the assets pledged under our Credit Facility, such sales may be completed at distressed sale prices, thereby diminishing or potentially eliminating the amount of cash available to us after repayment of the amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility.

Previously proposed legislation may allow us to incur additional leverage.

As a BDC, under the 1940 Act we generally are not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately after such borrowing we have an asset coverage for total borrowings of at least 200% (i.e., the amount of debt may not exceed 50% of the value of our assets). Legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives during the 113th Congress proposed to modify this section of the 1940 Act and increase the amount of debt that BDCs may incur by modifying the asset coverage percentage from 200% to 150%. In addition, legislation introduced in the U.S. Senate during the 113th Congress proposed to modify SBA regulations in a manner that may permit us to issue additional SBIC debentures above the current regulatory maximum amount of \$225.0 million. If such legislation is reintroduced and passed, we may be able to incur additional indebtedness in the future and therefore your risk of an investment in our securities may increase.

Further downgrades of the U.S. credit rating, automatic spending cuts or another government shutdown could negatively impact our liquidity, financial condition and earnings.

Recent U.S. debt ceiling and budget deficit concerns have increased the possibility of additional credit-rating downgrades and economic slowdowns, or a recession in the U.S. Although U.S. lawmakers passed legislation to raise the federal debt ceiling on multiple occasions, ratings agencies have lowered or threatened to lower the long-term sovereign credit rating on the United States. The impact of this or any further downgrades to the U.S. government's sovereign credit rating or its perceived creditworthiness could adversely affect the U.S. and global financial markets and economic conditions. Absent further quantitative easing by the Federal Reserve, these developments could cause interest rates and borrowing costs to rise, which may negatively impact our ability to access the debt markets on favorable terms. In addition, disagreement over the federal budget has caused the U.S. federal government to shut down for periods of time. Continued adverse political and economic conditions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

It is unclear how increased regulatory oversight and changes in the method for determining LIBOR may affect the value of the financial obligations to be held or issued by us that are linked to LIBOR, or how such changes could affect our results of operations or financial condition.

As a result of concerns about the accuracy of the calculation of LIBOR, a number of British Bankers' Association, or BBA, member banks entered into settlements with certain regulators and law

Table of Contents

enforcement agencies with respect to the alleged manipulation of LIBOR, and there are ongoing investigations by regulators and governmental authorities in various jurisdictions. Following a review of LIBOR conducted at the request of the U.K. government, on September 28, 2012, recommendations for reforming the setting and governing of LIBOR were released, which are referred to as the Wheatley Review. The Wheatley Review made a number of recommendations for changes with respect to LIBOR, including the introduction of S-5 statutory regulation of LIBOR, the transfer of responsibility for LIBOR from the BBA to an independent administrator, changes to the method of the compilation of lending rates and new regulatory oversight and enforcement mechanisms for rate-setting and a reduction in the number of currencies and tenors for which LIBOR is published. Based on the Wheatley Review and on a subsequent public and governmental consultation process, on March 25, 2013, the U.K. Financial Services Authority published final rules for the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority's regulation and supervision of LIBOR, which are referred to as the FCA Rules. In particular, the FCA Rules include requirements that (1) an independent LIBOR administrator monitor and survey LIBOR submissions to identify breaches of practice standards and/or potentially manipulative behavior, and (2) firms submitting data to LIBOR establish and maintain a clear conflicts of interest policy and appropriate systems and controls. The FCA Rules took effect on April 2, 2013, and on July 9, 2013, NYSE Euronext was chosen to serve as the independent LIBOR administrator commencing in 2014. It is uncertain what additional regulatory changes or what changes, if any, in the method of determining LIBOR may be required or made by the U.K. government or other governmental or regulatory authorities. Accordingly, uncertainty as to the nature of such changes may adversely affect the market for or value of any LIBOR-linked securities, loans, derivatives and other financial obligations or extensions of credit held by or due to us or on our overall financial condition or results of operations. In addition, any further changes or reforms to the determination or supervision of LIBOR may result in a sudden or prolonged increase or decrease in reported LIBOR, which could have an adverse impact on the market for or value of any LIBOR-linked securities, loans, derivatives and other financial obligations or extensions of credit held by or due to us or on our overall financial condition or results of operations.

We may experience fluctuations in our quarterly results.

We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly operating results due to a number of factors, including our ability or inability to make investments in companies that meet our investment criteria, the interest rate payable on the debt securities we acquire, the level of portfolio dividend and fee income, the level of our expenses, variations in and the timing of the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets and general economic conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any period should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future periods.

Our Board of Directors may change our operating policies and strategies without prior notice or stockholder approval, the effects of which may be adverse.

Our Board of Directors has the authority to modify or waive our current operating policies, investment criteria and strategies without prior notice and without stockholder approval. We cannot predict the effect any changes to our current operating policies, investment criteria and strategies would have on our business, net asset value, operating results and value of our stock. However, the effects might be adverse, which could negatively impact our ability to pay interest and principal payments to holders of our debt instruments and dividends to our stockholders and cause our investors to lose all or part of their investment in us.

Table of Contents

We will be subject to corporate-level income tax if we are unable to qualify as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code.

To maintain RIC tax treatment under the Code, we must meet the following annual distribution, income source and asset diversification requirements:

The annual distribution requirement for a RIC will be satisfied if we distribute to our stockholders on an annual basis at least 90% of our net ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. Depending on the level of taxable income earned in a tax year, we may choose to carry forward taxable income in excess of current year distributions into the next tax year and pay a 4% excise tax on such income. Any such carryover taxable income must be distributed through a dividend declared prior to filing the final tax return related to the year which generated such taxable income. For more information regarding tax treatment, see "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations Taxation as a Regulated Investment Company." Because we use debt financing, we are subject to certain asset coverage ratio requirements under the 1940 Act and are (and may in the future become) subject to certain financial covenants under loan and credit agreements that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to satisfy the distribution requirement. In addition, because we receive non-cash sources of income such as PIK interest which involves us recognizing income without receiving the cash representing such income, we may have difficulty meeting the distribution requirement. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources, we could fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus become subject to corporate-level income tax.

The source income requirement will be satisfied if we obtain at least 90% of our income for each year from distributions, interest, gains from the sale of stock or securities or similar sources.

The asset diversification requirement will be satisfied if we meet certain asset diversification requirements at the end of each quarter of our taxable year. To satisfy this requirement, at least 50% of the value of our assets must consist of cash, cash equivalents, U.S. Government securities, securities of other RICs, and other acceptable securities; and no more than 25% of the value of our assets can be invested in the securities, other than U.S. government securities or securities of other RICs, (i) of one issuer, (ii) of two or more issuers that are controlled, as determined under applicable Code rules, by us and that are engaged in the same or similar or related trades or businesses or (iii) of certain "qualified publicly traded partnerships."

Failure to meet these requirements may result in our having to dispose of certain investments quickly in order to prevent the loss of RIC status. Because most of our investments will be in private companies, and therefore will be illiquid, any such dispositions could be made at disadvantageous prices and could result in substantial losses. Moreover, if we fail to maintain RIC tax treatment for any reason and are subject to corporate income tax, the resulting corporate taxes could substantially reduce our net assets, the amount of income available for distribution and the amount of our distributions.

We may not be able to pay distributions to our stockholders, our distributions may not grow over time, and a portion of distributions paid to our stockholders may be a return of capital, which is a distribution of the stockholders' invested capital.

We intend to pay monthly distributions to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. We cannot assure you that we will achieve investment results that will allow us to pay a specified level of cash distributions, previously projected distributions for future periods, or year-to-year increases in cash distributions. Our ability to pay distributions might be adversely affected by, among other things, the impact of one or more of the risk factors described herein. In addition, the inability to satisfy the asset coverage test applicable to us as a BDC could limit our ability to pay distributions. All

Table of Contents

distributions will be paid at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend on our earnings, our financial condition, maintenance of our RIC status, compliance with applicable BDC regulations, each of the Funds' compliance with applicable SBIC regulations and such other factors as our Board of Directors may deem relevant from time to time. We cannot assure you that we will pay distributions to our stockholders in the future.

When we make monthly distributions, we will be required to determine the extent to which such distributions are paid out of current or accumulated earnings, recognized capital gains or capital. To the extent there is a return of capital, investors will be required to reduce their basis in our stock for federal tax purposes, which may result in higher tax liability when the shares are sold, even if they have not increased in value or have lost value. In addition, any return of capital will be net of any sales load and offering expenses associated with sales of shares of our common stock. In the future, our distributions may include a return of capital.

We may have difficulty paying the distributions required to maintain RIC tax treatment under the Code if we recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income.

We will include in income certain amounts that we have not yet received in cash, such as: (i) amortization of original issue discount, which may arise if we receive warrants in connection with the origination of a loan such that ascribing a value to the warrants creates original issue discount in the debt instrument, if we invest in a debt investment at a discount to the par value of the debt security or possibly in other circumstances; (ii) contractual payment-in-kind, or PIK, interest, which represents contractual interest added to the loan balance and due at the end of the loan term; (iii) contractual preferred dividends, which represents contractual dividends added to the preferred stock and due at the end of the preferred stock term, subject to adequate profitability at the portfolio company; or (iv) amortization of market discount, which is associated with loans purchased in the secondary market at a discount to par value. Such amortization of original issue discounts, increases in loan balances as a result of contractual PIK arrangements, cumulative preferred dividends, or amortization of market discount will be included in income before we receive the corresponding cash payments. We also may be required to include in income certain other amounts before we receive such amounts in cash. Investments structured with these features may represent a higher level of credit risk compared to investments generating income which must be paid in cash on a current basis. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, (i) approximately 2.2% of our total investment income was attributable to PIK income not paid currently in cash, (ii) approximately 1.4% of our total investment income was attributable to amortization of original issue discount, (iii) approximately 1.0% of our total investment income was attributable to cumulative dividend income not paid currently in cash, and (iv) approximately 1.4% of our total investment income was attributable to amortization of market discount on loans purchased in the secondary market at a discount.

Since, in certain cases, we may recognize income before or without receiving cash representing such income, we may have difficulty meeting the annual distribution requirement necessary to maintain RIC tax treatment under the Code. Accordingly, we may have to sell some of our investments at times and/or at prices we would not consider advantageous, raise additional debt or equity capital or forgo new investment opportunities for this purpose. If we are not able to obtain cash from other sources, we may fail to qualify for RIC tax treatment and thus become subject to corporate-level income tax. For additional discussion regarding the tax implications of a RIC, please see "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations Taxation as a Regulated Investment Company."

We may in the future choose to pay dividends in our own stock, in which case you may be required to pay tax in excess of the cash you receive.

We may distribute taxable dividends that are payable in part in our stock. Under certain applicable provisions of the Code and the Treasury regulations, distributions payable by us in cash or in shares of

Table of Contents

stock (at the stockholders election) would satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement. The IRS has issued private letter rulings providing that a dividend payable in stock or in cash at the election of the stockholders will be treated as a taxable dividend eligible for the dividends paid deduction provided that at least 20% of the total dividend is payable in cash and certain other requirements are satisfied. Taxable stockholders receiving such dividends will be required to include the full amount of the dividend as ordinary income (or as long-term capital gain to the extent such dividend is properly reported as a capital gain dividend) to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, a U.S. stockholder may be required to pay tax with respect to such dividends in excess of any cash received. If a U.S. stockholder sells the stock it receives as a dividend in order to pay this tax, the sales proceeds may be less than the amount included in income with respect to the dividend, depending on the market price of our stock at the time of the sale. Furthermore, with respect to non-U.S. stockholders, we may be required to withhold U.S. tax with respect to such dividends, including in respect of all or a portion of such dividend that is payable in stock. In addition, if a significant number of our stockholders determine to sell shares of our stock in order to pay taxes owed on dividends, it may put downward pressure on the trading price of our stock.

Each of the Funds, as an SBIC, may be unable to make distributions to us that will enable us to meet or maintain RIC status, which could result in the imposition of an entity-level tax.

In order for us to continue to qualify for RIC tax treatment and to minimize corporate-level taxes, we will be required to distribute substantially all of our net ordinary income and net capital gain income, including income from certain of our subsidiaries, which includes the income from the Funds. We will be partially dependent on the Funds for cash distributions to enable us to meet the RIC distribution requirements. The Funds may be limited by the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and SBIC regulations governing SBICs, from making certain distributions to us that may be necessary to enable us to maintain our status as a RIC. We may have to request a waiver of the SBA's restrictions for the Funds to make certain distributions to maintain our eligibility for RIC status. We cannot assure you that the SBA will grant such waiver and if the Funds are unable to obtain a waiver, compliance with the SBIC regulations may result in loss of RIC tax treatment and a consequent imposition of an entity-level tax on us.

Because we intend to distribute substantially all of our income to our stockholders to maintain our status as a RIC, we will continue to need additional capital to finance our growth, and regulations governing our operation as a BDC will affect our ability to, and the way in which we, raise additional capital and make distributions.

In order to satisfy the requirements applicable to a RIC and to minimize corporate-level taxes, we intend to distribute to our stockholders substantially all of our net ordinary income and net capital gain income. We may carry forward excess undistributed taxable income into the next year, net of the 4% excise tax. Any such carryover taxable income must be distributed through a dividend declared prior to filing the final tax return related to the year which generated such taxable income. As a BDC, we generally are required to meet an asset coverage ratio, as defined in the 1940 Act, of at least 200% immediately after each issuance of senior securities. This requirement limits the amount that we may borrow and may prohibit us from making distributions. Because we will continue to need capital to grow our Investment Portfolio, this limitation may prevent us from incurring debt and require us to raise additional equity at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so.

While we expect to be able to borrow and to issue additional debt and equity securities, we cannot assure you that debt and equity financing will be available to us on favorable terms, or at all. In addition, as a BDC, we generally are not permitted to issue equity securities priced below net asset value without stockholder approval. If additional funds are not available to us, we could be forced to curtail or cease new investment activities, and our net asset value could decline.

Table of Contents

Stockholders may incur dilution if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or issue securities to subscribe to, convert to or purchase shares of our common stock.

The 1940 Act prohibits us from selling shares of our common stock at a price below the current net asset value per share of such stock, with certain exceptions. One such exception is prior stockholder approval of issuances below net asset value provided that our Board of Directors makes certain determinations. We did not seek stockholder authorization to sell shares of our common stock at a price below the then current net asset value per share at our 2014 or 2015 annual meetings of stockholders because our common stock price per share has been trading significantly above the current net asset value per share of our common stock. As such, we do not currently have such stockholder authorization. We may, however, seek such authorization at future annual or special meetings of stockholders. Our stockholders have previously approved a proposal to authorize us to issue securities to subscribe to, convert to, or purchase shares of our common stock in one or more offerings. Any decision to sell shares of our common stock below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or securities to subscribe to, convert to, or purchase shares of our common stock would be subject to the determination by our Board of Directors that such issuance is in our and our stockholders' best interests.

If we were to sell shares of our common stock below net asset value per share, such sales would result in an immediate dilution to the net asset value per share. This dilution would occur as a result of the sale of shares at a price below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock and a proportionately greater decrease in a stockholder's interest in our earnings and assets and voting interest in us than the increase in our assets resulting from such issuance. In addition, if we issue securities to subscribe to, convert to or purchase shares of common stock, the exercise or conversion of such securities would increase the number of outstanding shares of our common stock. Any such exercise would be dilutive on the voting power of existing stockholders, and could be dilutive with regard to dividends and our net asset value, and other economic aspects of the common stock.

Because the number of shares of common stock that could be so issued and the timing of any issuance is not currently known, the actual dilutive effect cannot be predicted; however, the example below illustrates the effect of dilution to existing stockholders resulting from the sale of common stock at prices below the net asset value of such shares. Please see "Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value" for a more complete discussion of the potentially dilutive impacts of an offering at a price less than net asset value, or NAV, per share.

Illustration: Example of Dilutive Effect of the Issuance of Shares Below Net Asset Value. Assume that Company XYZ has 1,000,000 total shares outstanding, \$15,000,000 in total assets and \$5,000,000 in total liabilities. The net asset value per share of the common stock of Company XYZ is \$10.00. The following table illustrates the reduction to net asset value, or NAV, and the dilution

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

experienced by Stockholder A following the sale of 40,000 shares of the common stock of Company XYZ at \$9.50 per share, a price below its NAV per share.

| | Prior to Sale Below NAV | Following Sale Below NAV | Percentage Change |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Reduction to NAV</i> | | | |
| Total Shares Outstanding | 1,000,000 | 1,040,000 | 4.0% |
| NAV per share | \$ 10.00 | \$ 9.98 | (0.2)% |
| <i>Dilution to Existing Stockholder</i> | | | |
| Shares Held by Stockholder A | 10,000 | 10,000(1) | 0.0% |
| Percentage Held by Stockholder A | 1.00% | 0.96% | (3.8)% |
| Total Interest of Stockholder A in NAV | \$ 100,000 | \$ 99,808 | (0.2)% |

(1) Assumes that Stockholder A does not purchase additional shares in the sale of shares below NAV.

Changes in laws or regulations governing our operations may adversely affect our business or cause us to alter our business strategy.

We, the Funds, and our portfolio companies are subject to applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, including, without limitation, federal immigration laws and regulations. New legislation may be enacted or new interpretations, rulings or regulations could be adopted, including those governing the types of investments we are permitted to make, any of which could harm us and our stockholders, potentially with retroactive effect. In addition, any change to the SBA's current debenture SBIC program could have a significant impact on our ability to obtain lower-cost leverage, through the Funds, and therefore, our ability to compete with other finance companies.

Additionally, any changes to the laws and regulations governing our operations relating to permitted investments may cause us to alter our investment strategy in order to avail ourselves of new or different opportunities. Such changes could result in material differences to the strategies and plans set forth herein and may result in our investment focus shifting from the areas of expertise of our investment team to other types of investments in which our investment team may have less expertise or little or no experience. Thus, any such changes, if they occur, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and the value of your investment.

Terrorist attacks, acts of war or natural disasters may affect any market for our securities, impact the businesses in which we invest and harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

Terrorist acts, acts of war or natural disasters may disrupt our operations, as well as the operations of the businesses in which we invest. Such acts have created, and continue to create, economic and political uncertainties and have contributed to global economic instability. Future terrorist activities, military or security operations, or natural disasters could further weaken the domestic/global economies and create additional uncertainties, which may negatively impact the businesses in which we invest directly or indirectly and, in turn, could have a material adverse impact on our business, operating results and financial condition. Losses from terrorist attacks and natural disasters are generally uninsurable.

We are highly dependent on information systems and systems failures could significantly disrupt our business, which may, in turn, negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay dividends.

Our business is highly dependent on our and third parties' communications and information systems. Any failure or interruption of those systems, including as a result of the termination of an agreement with any third-party service providers, could cause delays or other problems in our activities.

Table of Contents

Our financial, accounting, data processing, backup or other operating systems and facilities may fail to operate properly or become disabled or damaged as a result of a number of factors including events that are wholly or partially beyond our control and adversely affect our business. There could be:

sudden electrical or telecommunications outages;

natural disasters such as earthquakes, tornadoes and hurricanes;

disease pandemics;

events arising from local or larger scale political or social matters, including terrorist acts; and

cyber attacks.

RISKS RELATED TO OUR INVESTMENTS

Our investments in portfolio companies involve higher levels of risk, and we could lose all or part of our investment.

Investing in our portfolio companies involves a number of significant risks. Among other things, these companies:

may have limited financial resources and may be unable to meet their obligations under their debt instruments that we hold, which may be accompanied by a deterioration in the value of any collateral and a reduction in the likelihood of us realizing any guarantees from subsidiaries or affiliates of our portfolio companies that we may have obtained in connection with our investment, as well as a corresponding decrease in the value of the equity components of our investments;

may have shorter operating histories, narrower product lines, smaller market shares and/or significant customer concentrations than larger businesses, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and market conditions, as well as general economic downturns;

are more likely to depend on the management talents and efforts of a small group of persons; therefore, the death, disability, resignation, termination or significant under-performance of one or more of these persons could have a material adverse impact on our portfolio company and, in turn, on us;

generally have less predictable operating results, may from time to time be parties to litigation, may be engaged in rapidly changing businesses with products subject to a substantial risk of obsolescence, and may require substantial additional capital to support their operations, finance expansion or maintain their competitive position; and

generally have less publicly available information about their businesses, operations and financial condition. We are required to rely on the ability of our management team and investment professionals to obtain adequate information to evaluate the potential returns from investing in these companies. If we are unable to uncover all material information about these companies, we may not make a fully informed investment decision, and may lose all or part of our investment.

In addition, in the course of providing significant managerial assistance to certain of our portfolio companies, certain of our officers and directors may serve as directors on the boards of such companies. To the extent that litigation arises out of our investments in these companies, our officers and directors may be named as defendants in such litigation, which could result in an expenditure of funds (through our indemnification of such officers and directors) and the diversion of management time and resources.

Table of Contents

Continuation of the current decline in oil and natural gas prices for a prolonged period of time could have a material adverse effect on us.

A prolonged continuation of the current decline in oil and natural gas prices would adversely affect the credit quality of our debt investments and the underlying operating performance of our equity investments in energy-related businesses. A decrease in credit quality and the operating performance would, in turn, negatively affect the fair value of these investments, which would consequently negatively affect our net asset value. Should the current decline in oil and natural gas prices persist, it is likely that our energy-related portfolio companies' abilities to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders will be adversely affected, thereby negatively impacting their financial condition and their ability to satisfy their debt service and other obligations to us. Likewise, should the current decline in oil and natural gas prices persist, it is likely that our energy-related portfolio companies' cash flow and profit generating capacities would also be adversely affected thereby negatively impacting their ability to pay us dividends or distributions on our equity investments.

We may be exposed to higher risks with respect to our investments that include original issue discount or PIK interest.

Our investments may include original issue discount and contractual PIK interest, which represents contractual interest added to a loan balance and due at the end of such loan's term. To the extent original issue discount or PIK interest constitute a portion of our income, we are exposed to typical risks associated with such income being required to be included in taxable and accounting income prior to receipt of cash, including the following:

original issue discount and PIK instruments may have higher yields, which reflect the payment deferral and credit risk associated with these instruments;

original issue discount and PIK accruals may create uncertainty about the source of our distributions to stockholders;

original issue discount and PIK instruments may have unreliable valuations because their continuing accruals require continuing judgments about the collectability of the deferred payments and the value of the collateral; and

original issue discount and PIK instruments may represent a higher credit risk than coupon loans.

The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business.

We invest, and will continue to invest in companies whose securities are not publicly traded, and whose securities will be subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or will otherwise be less liquid than publicly traded securities. The illiquidity of these investments may make it difficult for us to sell these investments when desired. In addition, if we are required to liquidate all or a portion of our portfolio quickly, we may realize significantly less than the value at which we had previously recorded these investments. As a result, we do not expect to achieve liquidity in our investments in the near-term. Our investments are usually subject to contractual or legal restrictions on resale or are otherwise illiquid because there is usually no established trading market for such investments. The illiquidity of most of our investments may make it difficult for us to dispose of them at a favorable price, and, as a result, we may suffer losses.

We may not have the funds or ability to make additional investments in our portfolio companies.

We may not have the funds or ability to make additional investments in our portfolio companies. After our initial investment in a portfolio company, we may be called upon from time to time to provide additional funds to such company or have the opportunity to increase our investment through

Table of Contents

the extension of additional loans, the exercise of a warrant to purchase equity securities, or the funding of additional equity investments. There is no assurance that we will make, or will have sufficient funds to make, follow-on investments. Any decisions not to make a follow-on investment or any inability on our part to make such an investment may have a negative impact on a portfolio company in need of such an investment, may result in a missed opportunity for us to increase our participation in a successful operation or may reduce the expected yield on the investment.

Our portfolio companies may incur debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, our investments in such companies.

We invest primarily in the secured term debt of LMM and Middle Market companies and equity issued by LMM companies. Our portfolio companies may have, or may be permitted to incur, other debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, the debt in which we invest. By their terms, such debt instruments may entitle the holders to receive payment of interest or principal on or before the dates on which we are entitled to receive payments with respect to the debt instruments in which we invest. Also, in the event of insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of a portfolio company, holders of debt instruments ranking senior to our investment in that portfolio company would typically be entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any distribution. After repaying such senior creditors, such portfolio company may not have any remaining assets to use for repaying its obligation to us. In the case of debt ranking equally with debt instruments in which we invest, we would have to share on an equal basis any distributions with other creditors holding such debt in the event of an insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of the relevant portfolio company.

There may be circumstances where our debt investments could be subordinated to claims of other creditors or we could be subject to lender liability claims.

Even though we may have structured certain of our investments as secured loans, if one of our portfolio companies were to go bankrupt, depending on the facts and circumstances, and based upon principles of equitable subordination as defined by existing case law, a bankruptcy court could subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of other creditors and transfer any lien securing such subordinated claim to the bankruptcy estate. The principles of equitable subordination defined by case law have generally indicated that a claim may be subordinated only if its holder is guilty of misconduct or where the senior loan is re-characterized as an equity investment and the senior lender has actually provided significant managerial assistance to the bankrupt debtor. We may also be subject to lender liability claims for actions taken by us with respect to a borrower's business or instances where we exercise control over the borrower. It is possible that we could become subject to a lender's liability claim, including as a result of actions taken in rendering significant managerial assistance or actions to compel and collect payments from the borrower outside the ordinary course of business.

Second priority liens on collateral securing loans that we make to our portfolio companies may be subject to control by senior creditors with first priority liens. If there is a default, the value of the collateral may not be sufficient to repay in full both the first priority creditors and us.

Certain loans that we make are secured by a second priority security interest in the same collateral pledged by a portfolio company to secure senior debt owed by the portfolio company to commercial banks or other traditional lenders. Often the senior lender has procured covenants from the portfolio company prohibiting the incurrence of additional secured debt without the senior lender's consent. Prior to and as a condition of permitting the portfolio company to borrow money from us secured by the same collateral pledged to the senior lender, the senior lender will require assurances that it will control the disposition of any collateral in the event of bankruptcy or other default. In many such cases, the senior lender will require us to enter into an "intercreditor agreement" prior to permitting the portfolio company to borrow from us. Typically the intercreditor agreements we are requested to

Table of Contents

execute expressly subordinate our debt instruments to those held by the senior lender and further provide that the senior lender shall control: (1) the commencement of foreclosure or other proceedings to liquidate and collect on the collateral; (2) the nature, timing and conduct of foreclosure or other collection proceedings; (3) the amendment of any collateral document; (4) the release of the security interests in respect of any collateral; and (5) the waiver of defaults under any security agreement. Because of the control we may cede to senior lenders under intercreditor agreements we may enter, we may be unable to realize the proceeds of any collateral securing some of our loans.

Finally, the value of the collateral securing our debt investment will ultimately depend on market and economic conditions, the availability of buyers and other factors. Therefore, there can be no assurance that the proceeds, if any, from the sale or sales of all of the collateral would be sufficient to satisfy the loan obligations secured by our first or second priority liens. There is also a risk that such collateral securing our investments will decrease in value over time, will be difficult to sell in a timely manner, will be difficult to appraise and will fluctuate in value based upon the success of the portfolio company and market conditions. If such proceeds are not sufficient to repay amounts outstanding under the loan obligations secured by our second priority liens, then we, to the extent not repaid from the proceeds of the sale of the collateral, will only have an unsecured claim against the company's remaining assets, if any.

We are a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and therefore we are not limited with respect to the proportion of our assets that may be invested in securities of a single issuer.

We are classified as a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, which means that we are not limited by the 1940 Act with respect to the proportion of our assets that we may invest in securities of a single issuer. To the extent that we assume large positions in the securities of a small number of issuers, our net asset value may fluctuate to a greater extent than that of a diversified investment company as a result of changes in the financial condition or the market's assessment of the issuer. We may also be more susceptible to any single economic or regulatory occurrence than a diversified investment company. Beyond our RIC asset diversification requirements, we do not have fixed guidelines for diversification, and our investments could be concentrated in relatively few portfolio companies.

We generally will not control our portfolio companies.

We do not, and do not expect to, control the decision making in many of our portfolio companies, even though we may have board representation or board observation rights, and our debt agreements may contain certain restrictive covenants. As a result, we are subject to the risk that a portfolio company in which we invest will make business decisions with which we disagree and the management of such company, as representatives of the holders of their common equity, will take risks or otherwise act in ways that do not serve our interests as debt investors. Due to the lack of liquidity for our investments in non-traded companies, we may not be able to dispose of our interests in our portfolio companies as readily as we would like or at an appropriate valuation. As a result, a portfolio company may make decisions that would decrease the value of our portfolio holdings.

Defaults by our portfolio companies will harm our operating results.

A portfolio company's failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders could lead to non-payment of interest and other defaults and, potentially, termination of its loans and foreclosure on its secured assets, which could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize a portfolio company's ability to meet its obligations under the debt or equity securities that we hold. We may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms, which may include the waiver of certain financial covenants, with a defaulting portfolio company.

Table of Contents

Any unrealized depreciation we experience in our portfolio may be an indication of future realized losses, which could reduce our income and gains available for distribution.

As a BDC, we are required to carry our investments at market value or, if no market value is ascertainable, at the fair value as determined in good faith by our Board of Directors. Decreases in the market values or fair values of our investments will be recorded as unrealized depreciation. Any unrealized depreciation in our portfolio could be an indication of a portfolio company's inability to meet its repayment obligations to us with respect to affected loans or a potential impairment of the value of affected equity investments. This could result in realized losses in the future and ultimately in reductions of our income and gains available for distribution in future periods.

Prepayments of our debt investments by our portfolio companies could adversely impact our results of operations and reduce our return on equity.

We are subject to the risk that the investments we make in our portfolio companies may be repaid prior to maturity. When this occurs, we will generally reinvest these proceeds in temporary investments, pending their future investment in new portfolio companies. These temporary investments will typically have substantially lower yields than the debt being prepaid and we could experience significant delays in reinvesting these amounts. Any future investment in a new portfolio company may also be at lower yields than the debt that was repaid. As a result, our results of operations could be materially adversely affected if one or more of our portfolio companies elect to prepay amounts owed to us. Additionally, prepayments could negatively impact our return on equity, which could result in a decline in the market price of our securities.

Changes in interest rates may affect our cost of capital and net investment income.

Some of our debt investments will bear interest at variable rates and the interest income from these investments could be negatively affected by decreases in market interest rates. In addition, an increase in interest rates would make it more expensive for us to use debt to finance our investments. As a result, a significant increase in market interest rates could increase our cost of capital, which would reduce our net investment income. Also, an increase in interest rates available to investors could make an investment in our securities less attractive than alternative investments, a situation which could reduce the value of our securities. Conversely, a decrease in interest rates may have an adverse impact on our returns by requiring us to seek lower yields on our debt investments and by increasing the risk that our portfolio companies will prepay our debt investments, resulting in the need to redeploy capital at potentially lower rates. A decrease in market interest rates may also adversely impact our returns on idle funds, which would reduce our net investment income.

We may not realize gains from our equity investments.

Certain investments that we have made in the past and may make in the future include warrants or other equity securities. Investments in equity securities involve a number of significant risks, including the risk of further dilution as a result of additional issuances, inability to access additional capital and failure to pay current distributions. Investments in preferred securities involve special risks, such as the risk of deferred distributions, credit risk, illiquidity and limited voting rights. In addition, we may from time to time make non-control, equity investments in portfolio companies. Our goal is ultimately to realize gains upon our disposition of such equity interests. However, the equity interests we receive may not appreciate in value and, in fact, may decline in value. Accordingly, we may not be able to realize gains from our equity interests, and any gains that we do realize on the disposition of any equity interests may not be sufficient to offset any other losses we experience. We also may be unable to realize any value if a portfolio company does not have a liquidity event, such as a sale of the business, recapitalization or public offering, which would allow us to sell the underlying equity interests. We often seek puts or similar rights to give us the right to sell our equity securities back to the portfolio company issuer; however, we may be unable to exercise these put rights for the consideration provided in our investment documents if the issuer is in financial distress.

Table of Contents

Our Marketable securities and idle funds investments are subject to risks similar to our portfolio company investments.

Marketable securities and idle funds investments can include, among other things, secured and unsecured debt investments, independently rated debt investments, diversified bond funds and publicly traded debt and equity securities. Many of these investments in debt obligations are, or would be if rated, below investment grade quality. Indebtedness of below investment grade quality is regarded as having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal, similar to our portfolio investments in our portfolio companies. See " Our investments in portfolio companies involve higher levels of risk, and we could lose all or part of our investment." Many of these Marketable securities and idle funds investments are purchased through over the counter or other markets and are therefore liquid at the time of purchase but may subsequently become illiquid due to events relating to the issuer of the securities, market events, economic conditions or investor perceptions. See " The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business" for a description of risks related to holding illiquid investments. In addition, domestic and foreign markets are complex and interrelated, so that events in one sector of the world markets or economy, or in one geographical region, can reverberate and have materially negative consequences for other market, economic or regional sectors in a manner that may not be foreseen and which may materially affect the market price of our Marketable securities and idle funds investments. Other risks that our portfolio investments are subject to are also applicable to these Marketable securities and idle funds investments.

Our investments in foreign securities may involve significant risks in addition to the risks inherent in U.S. investments.

Our investments in foreign securities may involve significant risks in addition to the risks inherent in investments in U.S. securities. Our investment strategy contemplates potential investments in debt securities of foreign companies. Investing in foreign companies may expose us to additional risks not typically associated with investing in securities of U.S. companies. These risks include changes in exchange control regulations, political and social instability, expropriation, imposition of foreign taxes, less liquid markets and less available information than is generally the case in the U.S., higher transaction costs, less government supervision of exchanges, brokers and issuers, less developed bankruptcy laws, difficulty in enforcing contractual obligations, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards and greater price volatility.

Although most of our investments will be U.S. dollar denominated, any investments denominated in a foreign currency will be subject to the risk that the value of a particular currency will change in relation to one or more other currencies. Among the factors that may affect currency values are trade balances, the level of short-term interest rates, differences in relative values of similar assets in different currencies, long-term opportunities for investment and capital appreciation, and political developments.

RISKS RELATING TO OUR SECURITIES

Shares of closed-end investment companies, including BDCs, may trade at a discount to their net asset value.

Shares of closed-end investment companies, including BDCs, may trade at a discount to net asset value. This characteristic of closed-end investment companies and BDCs is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our common stock will trade at, above or below net asset value. In addition, if our common stock trades below our net asset value per share, we will generally not be able to issue additional common stock at the market price unless our stockholders approve such a sale and our Board of Directors makes certain determinations. See " Risks Relating to Our Business and Structure Stockholders may incur dilution

Table of Contents

if we sell shares of our common stock in one or more offerings at prices below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock or issue securities to subscribe to, convert to or purchase shares of our common stock" for a discussion related to us issuing shares of our common stock below net asset value.

We may be unable to invest a significant portion of the net proceeds from an offering or from exiting an investment or other capital on acceptable terms, which could harm our financial condition and operating results.

Delays in investing the net proceeds raised in an offering or from exiting an investment or other capital may cause our performance to be worse than that of other fully invested BDCs or other lenders or investors pursuing comparable investment strategies. We cannot assure you that we will be able to identify any investments that meet our investment objective or that any investment that we make will produce a positive return. We may be unable to invest the net proceeds of any offering or from exiting an investment or other capital on acceptable terms within the time period that we anticipate or at all, which could harm our financial condition and operating results.

We anticipate that, depending on market conditions and the amount of the capital, it may take us a substantial period of time to invest substantially all the capital in securities meeting our investment objective. During this period, we will invest the capital primarily in Marketable securities and idle funds investments, which may produce returns that are significantly lower than the returns which we expect to achieve when our portfolio is fully invested in securities meeting our investment objective. As a result, any distributions that we pay during such period may be substantially lower than the distributions that we may be able to pay when our portfolio is fully invested in securities meeting our investment objective. In addition, until such time as the net proceeds of any offering or from exiting an investment or other capital are invested in new securities meeting our investment objective, the market price for our securities may decline. Thus, the initial return on your investment may be lower than when, if ever, our portfolio is fully invested in securities meeting our investment objective.

Investing in our securities may involve an above average degree of risk.

The investments we make in accordance with our investment objective may result in a higher amount of risk than alternative investment options and a higher risk of volatility or loss of principal. Our investments in portfolio companies involve higher levels of risk, and therefore, an investment in our securities may not be suitable for someone with lower risk tolerance.

The market price of our securities may be volatile and fluctuate significantly.

Fluctuations in the trading prices of our securities may adversely affect the liquidity of the trading market for our securities and, if we seek to raise capital through future securities offerings, our ability to raise such capital. The market price and liquidity of the market for our securities may be significantly affected by numerous factors, some of which are beyond our control and may not be directly related to our operating performance. These factors include:

significant volatility in the market price and trading volume of securities of BDCs or other companies in our sector, which are not necessarily related to the operating performance of these companies;

changes in regulatory policies, accounting pronouncements or tax guidelines, particularly with respect to RICs, BDCs or SBICs;

the exclusion of our common stock from certain market indices, such as what happened with respect to the Russell indices and the Standard and Poor's indices, could reduce the ability of

Table of Contents

certain investment funds to own our common stock and limit the number of owners of our common stock and otherwise negatively impact the market price of our common stock;

inability to obtain any exemptive relief that may be required by us in the future from the SEC;

loss of our BDC or RIC status or either of the Funds' status as an SBIC;

changes in our earnings or variations in our operating results;

changes in the value of our portfolio of investments;

any shortfall in our investment income or net investment income or any increase in losses from levels expected by investors or securities analysts;

loss of a major funding source;

fluctuations in interest rates;

the operating performance of companies comparable to us;

departure of our key personnel;

global or national credit market changes; and

general economic trends and other external factors.

Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and our articles of incorporation and bylaws could deter takeover attempts and have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock.

The Maryland General Corporation Law and our articles of incorporation and bylaws contain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging, delaying or making difficult a change in control of our company or the removal of our incumbent directors. The existence of these provisions, among others, may have a negative impact on the price of our common stock and may discourage third-party bids for ownership of our company. These provisions may prevent any premiums being offered to you for our common stock.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement constitute forward-looking statements because they relate to future events or our future performance or financial condition. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement may include statements as to:

- our future operating results and dividend projections;
- our business prospects and the prospects of our portfolio companies;
- the impact of the investments that we expect to make;
- the ability of our portfolio companies to achieve their objectives;
- our expected financings and investments;
- the adequacy of our cash resources and working capital; and
- the timing of cash flows, if any, from the operations of our portfolio companies.

In addition, words such as "anticipate," "believe," "expect" and "intend" indicate a forward-looking statement, although not all forward-looking statements include these words. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those implied or expressed in the forward-looking statements for any reason, including the factors set forth in "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. Other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include:

- changes in the economy;
- risks associated with possible disruption in our operations or the economy generally due to terrorism or natural disasters; and
- future changes in laws or regulations and conditions in our operating areas.

We have based the forward-looking statements included in this prospectus and will base the forward-looking statements included in any accompanying prospectus supplement on information available to us on the date of this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, as appropriate, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements, except as required by law. Although we undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, you are advised to consult any additional disclosures that we may make directly to you, including in the form of a prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment to the registration statement, or through reports that we in the future may file with the SEC, including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

We intend to use the net proceeds from any offering to make investments in accordance with our investment objective and strategies described in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, to make investments in marketable securities and idle funds investments, which may include investments in secured intermediate term bank debt, rated debt securities and other income producing investments, to pay our operating expenses and other cash obligations, and for general corporate purposes. Our ability to achieve our investment objective may be limited to the extent that the net proceeds from an offering, pending full investment, are held in interest-bearing deposits or other short-term instruments. See "Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Securities We may be unable to invest a significant portion of the net proceeds from an offering or from exiting an investment or other capital on acceptable terms, which could harm our financial condition and operating results." The supplement to this prospectus relating to an offering will more fully identify the use of proceeds from such an offering.

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

Our common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "MAIN." Prior to October 14, 2010, our common stock was traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the same symbol "MAIN." Our common stock began trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on October 5, 2007. Prior to that date, there was no established public trading market for our common stock.

The following table sets forth, for each fiscal quarter during 2015, 2014 and 2013, the range of high and low closing prices of our common stock as reported on the NYSE, and the sales price as a percentage of the net asset value per share of our common stock.

| | NAV(1) | Price Range | | Premium of High Sales Price to NAV(2) | Premium of Low Sales Price to NAV(2) |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | High | Low | | |
| Year ending December 31, 2015 | | | | | |
| Third Quarter (through July 15, 2015) | * | \$ 32.77 | \$ 31.59 | * | * |
| Second Quarter | * | 32.59 | 30.47 | * | * |
| First Quarter | \$ 21.87 | 31.47 | 27.87 | 44% | 27% |
| Year ending December 31, 2014 | | | | | |
| Fourth Quarter | \$ 20.85 | \$ 32.68 | \$ 27.48 | 57% | 32% |
| Third Quarter | 21.08 | 32.87 | 30.38 | 56% | 44% |
| Second Quarter | 21.03 | 33.54 | 29.55 | 59% | 41% |
| First Quarter | 20.14 | 35.69 | 32.23 | 77% | 60% |
| Year ending December 31, 2013 | | | | | |
| Fourth Quarter | \$ 19.89 | \$ 33.13 | \$ 29.70 | 67% | 49% |
| Third Quarter | 20.01 | 31.08 | 27.41 | 55% | 37% |
| Second Quarter | 18.72 | 32.13 | 26.43 | 72% | 41% |
| First Quarter | 18.55 | 34.38 | 30.44 | 85% | 64% |

- (1) Net asset value per share, or NAV, is determined as of the last day in the relevant quarter and therefore may not reflect the net asset value per share on the date of the high and low sales prices. The net asset values shown are based on outstanding shares at the end of each period. Net asset value has not yet been determined for the second or third quarters of 2015.
- (2) Calculated as the respective high or low share price divided by NAV for such quarter.

On July 15, 2015 the last sale price of our common stock on the NYSE was \$32.60 per share, and there were approximately 244 holders of record of the common stock which did not include stockholders for whom shares are held in "nominee" or "street name." The net asset value per share of our common stock on March 31, 2015 (the last date prior to the date of this prospectus on which we determined our net asset value per share) was \$21.87, and the premium of the July 15, 2015 closing price of our common stock was 49% to this net asset value per share.

Shares of BDCs may trade at a market price that is less than the value of the net assets attributable to those shares. The possibility that our shares of common stock will trade at a discount from net asset value per share or at premiums that are unsustainable over the long-term are separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share will decrease. It is not possible to predict whether our common stock will trade at, above, or below net asset value per share. Since our IPO in October 2007, our shares of common stock have traded at prices both less than and exceeding our net asset value per share.

We currently pay regular monthly dividends and semi-annual supplemental dividends to our stockholders. Our monthly dividends, if any, will be determined by our Board of Directors on a

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

quarterly basis. Our semi-annual supplemental dividends, if any, will be determined by our Board of Directors based upon our undistributed taxable income. The following table summarizes our dividends declared to date:

| Date Declared | Record Date | Payment Date | Amount(1) |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Fiscal year 2015 | | | |
| May 5, 2015 | August 20, 2015 | September 15, 2015 | \$ 0.175 |
| May 5, 2015 | July 21, 2015 | August 14, 2015 | \$ 0.175 |
| May 5, 2015 | July 1, 2015 | July 15, 2015 | \$ 0.175 |
| April 22, 2015 | June 18, 2015 | June 25, 2015 | \$ 0.275 |
| February 24, 2015 | May 20, 2015 | June 15, 2015 | \$ 0.175 |
| February 24, 2015 | April 21, 2015 | May 15, 2015 | \$ 0.175 |
| February 24, 2015 | March 31, 2015 | April 15, 2015 | \$ 0.175 |
| November 6, 2014 | February 20, 2015 | March 16, 2015 | \$ 0.170 |
| November 6, 2014 | January 21, 2015 | February 13, 2015 | \$ 0.170 |
| November 6, 2014 | December 31, 2014 | January 15, 2015 | \$ 0.170(2) |
| Total | | | \$ 1.835 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Fiscal year 2014 | | | |
| October 23, 2014 | December 18, 2014 | December 24, 2014 | \$ 0.275(2) |
| August 4, 2014 | November 20, 2014 | December 15, 2014 | \$ 0.170(2) |
| August 4, 2014 | October 20, 2014 | November 14, 2014 | \$ 0.170(2) |
| August 4, 2014 | September 19, 2014 | October 15, 2014 | \$ 0.170(2) |
| May 6, 2014 | August 20, 2014 | September 15, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| May 6, 2014 | July 21, 2014 | August 15, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| May 6, 2014 | June 30, 2014 | July 15, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| April 21, 2014 | June 20, 2014 | June 25, 2014 | \$ 0.275(2) |
| February 26, 2014 | May 21, 2014 | June 16, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| February 26, 2014 | April 20, 2014 | May 15, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| February 26, 2014 | March 21, 2014 | April 15, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| November 6, 2013 | February 20, 2014 | March 14, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| November 6, 2013 | January 21, 2014 | February 14, 2014 | \$ 0.165(2) |
| November 6, 2013 | December 30, 2013 | January 15, 2014 | \$ 0.165(3) |
| Total | | | \$ 2.545 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Fiscal year 2013 | | | |
| November 20, 2013 | December 19, 2013 | December 24, 2013 | \$ 0.250(3) |
| August 6, 2013 | November 21, 2013 | December 16, 2013 | \$ 0.160(3) |
| August 6, 2013 | October 21, 2013 | November 15, 2013 | \$ 0.160(3) |
| August 6, 2013 | September 20, 2013 | October 15, 2013 | \$ 0.160(3) |
| May 13, 2013 | July 22, 2013 | July 26, 2013 | \$ 0.200(3) |
| May 8, 2013 | May 21, 2013 | September 16, 2013 | \$ 0.155(3) |
| May 8, 2013 | July 17, 2013 | August 15, 2013 | \$ 0.155(3) |
| May 8, 2013 | June 18, 2013 | July 15, 2013 | \$ 0.155(3) |
| March 5, 2013 | May 21, 2013 | June 14, 2013 | \$ 0.155(3) |
| March 5, 2013 | April 19, 2013 | May 15, 2013 | \$ 0.155(3) |
| March 5, 2013 | March 21, 2013 | April 15, 2013 | \$ 0.155(3) |
| November 6, 2012 | February 21, 2013 | March 15, 2013 | \$ 0.150(3) |
| November 6, 2012 | January 18, 2013 | February 15, 2013 | \$ 0.150(3) |
| November 6, 2012 | January 4, 2013 | January 23, 2013 | \$ 0.350(3) |
| November 6, 2012 | December 20, 2012 | January 15, 2013 | \$ 0.150(4) |
| Total | | | \$ 2.660 |

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

| Date Declared | Record Date | Payment Date | Amount(1) |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Fiscal year 2012 | | | |
| July 31, 2012 | November 21, 2012 | December 14, 2012 | \$ 0.150(4) |
| July 31, 2012 | October 19, 2012 | November 15, 2012 | \$ 0.150(4) |
| July 31, 2012 | September 20, 2012 | October 15, 2012 | \$ 0.150(4) |
| May 1, 2012 | August 21, 2012 | September 14, 2012 | \$ 0.145(4) |
| May 1, 2012 | July 20, 2012 | August 15, 2012 | \$ 0.145(4) |
| May 1, 2012 | June 21, 2012 | July 16, 2012 | \$ 0.145(4) |
| March 6, 2012 | May 21, 2012 | June 15, 2012 | \$ 0.140(4) |
| March 6, 2012 | April 20, 2012 | May 15, 2012 | \$ 0.140(4) |
| March 6, 2012 | March 21, 2012 | April 16, 2012 | \$ 0.140(4) |
| December 8, 2011 | February 22, 2012 | March 15, 2012 | \$ 0.135(4) |
| December 8, 2011 | January 18, 2012 | February 15, 2012 | \$ 0.135(4) |
| December 8, 2011 | December 21, 2011 | January 16, 2012 | \$ 0.135(5) |
| Total | | | \$ 1.710 |
| Fiscal year 2011 | | | |
| Total | | | \$ 1.560(5) |
| Fiscal year 2010 | | | |
| Total | | | \$ 1.500(6) |
| Fiscal year 2009 | | | |
| Total | | | \$ 1.500(7)(8) |
| Fiscal year 2008 | | | |
| Total | | | \$ 1.425(8) |
| Fiscal year 2007 | | | |
| Total | | | \$ 0.330(9) |
| Cumulative dividends declared or paid | | | \$ 15.065 |

(1)

The determination of the tax attributes of Main Street's distributions is made annually, based upon its taxable income for the full year and distributions paid for the full year. Ordinary dividend distributions from a RIC do not qualify for the tax rate applicable to "qualified dividend income" from domestic corporations and qualified foreign corporations, except to the extent that the RIC received the income in the form of qualifying dividends from domestic corporations and qualified foreign corporations.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

- (2) These dividends attributable to fiscal year 2014 were comprised of ordinary income of \$2.083 per share, long-term capital gain of \$0.419 per share, and qualified dividend income of \$0.048 per share, and included dividends with a record date during fiscal year 2014, including the dividend declared and accrued as of December 31, 2014 and paid on January 15, 2015, pursuant to the Code.
- (3) These dividends attributable to fiscal year 2013 were comprised of ordinary income of \$1.872 per share, long-term capital gain of \$0.346 per share, and qualified dividend income of \$0.457 per share, and included dividends with a record date during fiscal year 2013, including the dividend declared and accrued as of December 31, 2013 and paid on January 15, 2014, pursuant to the Code.
- (4) These dividends attributable to fiscal year 2012 were comprised of ordinary income of \$0.923 per share, long-term capital gain of \$0.748 per share, and qualified dividend income of \$0.054 per share, and included dividends with a record date during fiscal year 2012, including the dividend declared and accrued as of December 31, 2012 and paid on January 15, 2013, pursuant to the Code.
- (5) These dividends attributable to fiscal year 2011 were comprised of ordinary income of \$1.253 per share, long-term capital gain of \$0.373 per share, and qualified dividend income of \$0.069 per share,

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

and included dividends with a record date during fiscal year 2011, including the dividend declared and accrued as of December 31, 2011 and paid on January 16, 2012, pursuant to the Code.

- (6) These dividends attributable to fiscal year 2010 were comprised of ordinary income of \$1.220 per share, long-term capital gain of \$0.268 per share, and qualified dividend income of \$0.012 per share.
- (7) These dividends attributable to fiscal year 2009 were comprised of ordinary income of \$1.218 per share and long-term capital gain of \$0.157 per share and excluded the \$0.125 paid on January 15, 2009 which had been declared and accrued as of December 31, 2008.
- (8) These dividends attributable to fiscal year 2008 were comprised of ordinary income of \$0.953 per share and long-term capital gain of \$0.597 per share, and included dividends with a record date during fiscal year 2008, including the \$0.125 per share dividend declared and accrued as of December 31, 2008 and paid on January 15, 2009, pursuant to the Code.
- (9) This quarterly dividend attributable to fiscal year 2007 was comprised of ordinary income of \$0.105 per share and long-term capital gain of \$0.225 per share.

To obtain and maintain RIC tax treatment, we must, among other things, distribute at least 90% of our net ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. We will be subject to a 4% nondeductible U.S. federal excise tax on certain undistributed taxable income unless we distribute in a timely manner an amount at least equal to the sum of (1) 98% of our net ordinary income for each calendar year, (2) 98.2% of our capital gain net income for the one-year period ending December 31 in that calendar year and (3) any income recognized, but not distributed, in preceding years (the "Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement"). Dividends declared and paid by us in a year will generally differ from taxable income for that year, as such dividends may include the distribution of current year taxable income, less amounts carried over into the following year, and the distribution of prior year taxable income carried over into and distributed in the current year. For amounts we carry over into the following year, we will be required to pay a 4% U.S. federal excise tax on the amount by which 98% of our annual ordinary taxable income and 98.2% of capital gains exceeds our distributions for the year. We may retain for investment some or all of our net capital gains (i.e., realized net long-term capital gains in excess of realized net short-term capital losses) and treat such amounts as deemed distributions to our stockholders. If we do this, our stockholders will be treated as if they had received actual distributions of the capital gains we retained and then reinvested the net after-tax proceeds in our common stock. In general, our stockholders also would be eligible to claim a tax credit (or, in certain circumstances, a tax refund) equal to their allocable shares of the tax we paid on the capital gains deemed distributed to them. We can offer no assurance that we will achieve results that will permit the payment of any cash distributions and, if we issue senior securities, we may be prohibited from making distributions if doing so causes us to fail to maintain the asset coverage ratios stipulated by the 1940 Act or if distributions are limited by the terms of any of our borrowings.

We may distribute taxable dividends that are payable in part in our stock. Under certain applicable provisions of the Code and the Treasury regulations, distributions payable by us in cash or in shares of stock (at the stockholders election) would satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement. The IRS has issued private letter rulings providing that a dividend payable in stock or in cash at the election of the stockholders will be treated as a taxable dividend eligible for the dividends paid deduction provided that at least 20% of the total dividend is payable in cash and certain other requirements are satisfied. Taxable stockholders receiving such dividends will be required to include the full amount of the dividend as ordinary income (or as long-term capital gain to the extent such dividend is properly reported as a capital gain dividend), to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, a U.S. stockholder may be required to pay tax with respect to such dividends in excess of any cash received. If a U.S. stockholder sells the stock it receives as a dividend in order to pay this tax, the sales proceeds may be less than the amount included in

Table of Contents

income with respect to the dividend, depending on the market price of our stock at the time of the sale. Furthermore, with respect to non-U.S. stockholders, we may be required to withhold U.S. tax with respect to such dividends, including in respect of all or a portion of such dividend that is payable in stock. In addition, if a significant number of our stockholders determine to sell shares of our stock in order to pay taxes owed on dividends, it may put downward pressure on the trading price of our stock.

We have adopted a dividend reinvestment plan ("DRIP") that provides for the reinvestment of dividends on behalf of our stockholders, unless a stockholder has elected to receive dividends in cash. As a result, if we declare a cash dividend, our stockholders who have not "opted out" of the DRIP by the dividend record date will have their cash dividend automatically reinvested into additional shares of MSCC common stock. The share requirements of the DRIP may be satisfied through the issuance of new shares of common stock or through open market purchases of common stock by the DRIP plan administrator. Newly-issued shares will be valued based upon the final closing price of MSCC's common stock on a valuation date determined for each dividend by our Board of Directors. Shares purchased in the open market to satisfy the DRIP requirements will be valued based upon the average price of the applicable shares purchased by the DRIP plan administrator, before any associated brokerage or other costs.

Table of Contents**RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The following table contains our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated, computed as set forth below. You should read these ratios of earnings to fixed charges in connection with our consolidated financial statements, including the notes to those statements, included in this prospectus.

| | For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 | For the Year Ended December 31, 2014 | For the Year Ended December 31, 2013 | For the Year Ended December 31, 2012 | For the Year Ended December 31, 2011 | For the Year Ended December 31, 2010 |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Earnings to Fixed Charges(1) | 5.51 | 5.54 | 5.78 | 8.37 | 6.21 | 5.52 |

- (1) Earnings include net realized and unrealized gains or losses. Net realized and unrealized gains or losses can vary substantially from period to period.

For purposes of computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings represent net increase in net assets resulting from operations plus (or minus) income tax expense (benefit) including excise tax expense plus fixed charges. Fixed charges include interest and credit facility fees expense and amortization of debt issuance costs.

Table of Contents**SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

The selected financial and other data below reflects the consolidated financial condition and the consolidated statement of operations of Main Street and its subsidiaries as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010, and as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014. The selected financial data as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 have been derived from consolidated financial statements that have been audited by Grant Thornton LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm. The selected financial data as of March 31, 2015, and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, have been derived from unaudited financial data but, in the opinion of management, reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) that are necessary to present fairly the financial condition and operating results for such interim periods. Interim results as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2015. You should read this selected financial and other data in conjunction with our "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," "Senior Securities" and the financial statements and related notes in this prospectus.

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Years Ended December 31, | | | | 2010 |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | |
| (dollars in thousands) | | | | | | | |
| Statement of operations data: | | | | | | | |
| Investment income: | | | | | | | |
| Total interest, fee and dividend income | \$ 36,805 | \$ 30,569 | \$ 139,939 | \$ 115,158 | \$ 88,858 | \$ 65,045 | \$ 35,645 |
| Interest from idle funds and other | 374 | 207 | 824 | 1,339 | 1,662 | 1,195 | 863 |
| Total investment income | 37,179 | 30,776 | 140,763 | 116,497 | 90,520 | 66,240 | 36,508 |
| Expenses: | | | | | | | |
| Interest | (7,796) | (5,286) | (23,589) | (20,238) | (15,631) | (13,518) | (9,058) |
| Compensation | (3,494) | (2,351) | (12,337) | (8,560) | | | |
| General and administrative | (1,962) | (1,838) | (7,134) | (4,877) | (2,330) | (2,483) | (1,437) |
| Expenses charged to the External Investment Manager | 827 | 291 | 2,048 | | | | |
| Expenses reimbursed to Internal Investment Manager | | | | (3,189) | (10,669) | (8,915) | (5,263) |
| Share-based compensation | (1,263) | (853) | (4,215) | (4,210) | (2,565) | (2,047) | (1,489) |
| Total expenses | (13,688) | (10,037) | (45,227) | (41,074) | (31,195) | (26,963) | (17,247) |
| Net investment income | 23,491 | 20,739 | 95,536 | 75,423 | 59,325 | 39,277 | 19,261 |
| Total net realized gain (loss) from investments | (2,120) | 1,443 | 23,206 | 7,277 | 16,479 | 2,639 | (2,880) |
| Total net realized loss from SBIC debentures | | | | (4,775) | | | |
| Net realized income | 21,371 | 22,182 | 118,742 | 77,925 | 75,804 | 41,916 | 16,381 |
| Total net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from investments | 14,455 | 7,906 | (776) | 14,503 | 44,464 | 34,989 | 13,046 |
| Total net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from SBIC debentures and investment in the Internal Investment Manager | (693) | (1,189) | (10,931) | 4,392 | (5,004) | (6,511) | 6,593 |
| Income tax benefit (provision) | 291 | (1,665) | (6,287) | 35 | (10,820) | (6,288) | (941) |
| Bargain purchase gain | | | | | | | 4,891 |
| Net increase in net assets resulting from operations | 35,424 | 27,234 | 100,748 | 96,855 | 104,444 | 64,106 | 39,970 |
| Noncontrolling interest | | | | | (54) | (1,139) | (1,226) |
| Net increase in net assets resulting from operations attributable to common stock | \$ 35,424 | \$ 27,234 | \$ 100,748 | \$ 96,855 | \$ 104,390 | \$ 62,967 | \$ 38,744 |
| Net investment income per share basic and diluted | \$ 0.51 | \$ 0.52 | \$ 2.20 | \$ 2.06 | \$ 2.01 | \$ 1.69 | \$ 1.16 |
| Net realized income per share basic and diluted | \$ 0.46 | \$ 0.56 | \$ 2.73 | \$ 2.13 | \$ 2.56 | \$ 1.80 | \$ 0.99 |
| Net increase in net assets resulting from operations attributable to common stock per share basic and | \$ 0.77 | \$ 0.68 | \$ 2.31 | \$ 2.65 | \$ 3.53 | \$ 2.76 | \$ 2.38 |

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

diluted

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Weighted average shares outstanding basic and diluted | 46,080,204 | 39,898,573 | 43,522,397 | 36,617,850 | 29,540,114 | 22,850,299 | 16,292,846 |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|

44

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

| | As of March 31, 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | As of December 31, 2012 2011 2010 | | |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | | | |
| Balance sheet data: | | | | | | |
| Assets: | | | | | | |
| Total portfolio investments at fair value | \$ 1,737,323 | \$ 1,563,330 | \$ 1,286,188 | \$ 924,431 | \$ 658,093 | \$ 407,987 |
| Marketable securities and idle funds investments | 9,948 | 9,067 | 13,301 | 28,535 | 26,242 | 9,577 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 22,015 | 60,432 | 34,701 | 63,517 | 42,650 | 22,334 |
| Deferred tax asset, net | | | | | | 1,958 |
| Interest receivable and other assets | 47,758 | 46,406 | 16,054 | 14,580 | 6,539 | 4,524 |
| Deferred financing costs, net of accumulated amortization | 13,925 | 14,550 | 9,931 | 5,162 | 4,168 | 2,544 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,830,969 | \$ 1,693,785 | \$ 1,360,175 | \$ 1,036,225 | \$ 737,692 | \$ 448,924 |
| Liabilities and net assets: | | | | | | |
| Credit facility | \$ 164,000 | \$ 218,000 | \$ 237,000 | \$ 132,000 | \$ 107,000 | \$ 39,000 |
| 4.50% Notes | 175,000 | 175,000 | | | | |
| 6.125% Notes | 90,810 | 90,823 | 90,882 | | | |
| SBIC debentures at fair value(1) | 223,474 | 222,781 | 187,050 | 211,467 | 201,887 | 155,558 |
| Payable for securities purchased | 67,270 | 14,773 | 27,088 | 20,661 | | |
| Deferred tax liability, net | 8,546 | 9,214 | 5,940 | 11,778 | 3,776 | |
| Dividend payable | 8,674 | 7,663 | 6,577 | 5,188 | 2,856 | |
| Interest payable | 5,609 | 4,848 | 2,556 | 3,562 | 3,984 | 3,195 |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities | 3,693 | 10,701 | 10,549 | 8,593 | 7,001 | 1,188 |
| Total liabilities | 747,076 | 753,803 | 567,642 | 393,249 | 326,504 | 198,941 |
| Total net asset value | 1,083,893 | 939,982 | 792,533 | 642,976 | 405,711 | 245,535 |
| Noncontrolling interest | | | | | 5,477 | 4,448 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$ 1,830,969 | \$ 1,693,785 | \$ 1,360,175 | \$ 1,036,225 | \$ 737,692 | \$ 448,924 |
| Other data: | | | | | | |
| Weighted average effective yield on LMM debt investments(2) | 13.1% | 13.2% | 14.7% | 14.3% | 14.8% | 14.5% |
| Number of LMM portfolio companies | 68 | 66 | 62 | 56 | 54 | 44 |
| Weighted average effective yield on Middle Market debt investments(2) | 7.9% | 7.8% | 7.8% | 8.0% | 9.5% | 10.5% |
| Number of Middle Market portfolio companies | 89 | 86 | 92 | 79 | 57 | 32 |
| Weighted average effective yield on Private Loan debt investments(2) | 9.9% | 10.1% | 11.3% | 14.8% | | |
| Number of Private Loan portfolio companies | 37 | 31 | 15 | 9 | | |
| Expense ratios (as percentage of average net assets): | | | | | | |
| Total expenses, including income tax expense | 1.3%(3) | 5.8% | 5.8% | 8.2%(4) | 9.8%(4) | 8.8%(4) |
| Operating expenses | 1.4%(3) | 5.1% | 5.8% | 6.1%(4) | 8.0%(4) | 8.3%(4) |
| Operating expenses, excluding interest expense | 0.6%(3) | 2.4% | 3.0% | 3.0%(4) | 4.0%(4) | 4.0%(4) |
| Total investment return(5) | 7.49% | 3.09% | 16.68% | 53.60% | 26.95% | 23.97% |

(1) SBIC debentures for March 31, 2015, December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 are \$225,000, \$225,000, \$200,200, \$225,000, \$220,000 and \$180,000 at par, respectively, with par of \$75,200 for March 31, 2015, December 31, 2014 and 2013, \$100,000 for December 31, 2012, and \$95,000 for December 31, 2011 and 2010 recorded at fair value of \$73,674, \$72,981, \$62,050, \$86,467, 76,887 and \$70,558, as of March 31, 2015, December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

- (2) Weighted-average effective yield is calculated based on our debt investments at the end of each period and includes amortization of deferred debt origination fees and accretion of original issue discount, but excludes liquidation fees payable upon repayment and any debt investments on non-accrual status.
- (3) Not annualized.
- (4) Ratios are net of amounts attributable to MSC II non-controlling interest.
- (5) Total investment return is based on the purchase of our common stock at the current market price on the first day and a sale at the current market price on the last day of each period reported and assumes reinvestment of dividends at prices obtained under our dividend reinvestment plan during the period. The return does not reflect sales load that may be paid by an investor.

Table of Contents

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

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this prospectus.

Statements we make in the following discussion which express a belief, expectation or intention, as well as those that are not historical fact, are forward-looking statements that are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Our actual results, performance or achievements, or industry results, could differ materially from those we express in the following discussion as a result of a variety of factors, including the risks and uncertainties we have referred to under the headings "Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements" and "Risk Factors" in this prospectus.

ORGANIZATION

Main Street Capital Corporation ("MSCC") is a principal investment firm primarily focused on providing customized debt and equity financing to lower middle market ("LMM") companies and debt capital to middle market ("Middle Market") companies. The portfolio investments of MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries are typically made to support management buyouts, recapitalizations, growth financings, refinancings and acquisitions of companies that operate in diverse industry sectors. MSCC seeks to partner with entrepreneurs, business owners and management teams and generally provide "one stop" financing alternatives within its LMM portfolio. MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries invest primarily in secured debt investments, equity investments, warrants and other securities of LMM companies based in the United States and in secured debt investments of Middle Market companies generally headquartered in the United States.

MSCC was formed in March 2007 to operate as an internally managed business development company ("BDC") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). MSCC wholly owns several investment funds, including, but not limited to, Main Street Mezzanine Fund, LP ("MSMF") and Main Street Capital II, LP ("MSC II" and, together with MSMF, the "Funds"), and each of their general partners. The Funds are each licensed as a Small Business Investment Company ("SBIC") by the United States Small Business Administration ("SBA"). Because MSCC is internally managed, all of the executive officers and other employees are employed by MSCC. Therefore, MSCC does not pay any external investment advisory fees but instead incurs the operating costs associated with employing investment and portfolio management professionals.

MSC Adviser I, LLC (the "External Investment Manager") was formed in November 2013 as a wholly owned subsidiary of MSCC to provide investment management and other services to parties other than MSCC and its subsidiaries ("External Parties") and receive fee income for such services. MSCC has been granted no-action relief by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to allow the External Investment Manager to register as a registered investment adviser ("RIA") under Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act"). Since the External Investment Manager conducts all of its investment management activities for parties outside of MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries or their portfolio companies, it is accounted for as a portfolio investment of MSCC and is not included as a consolidated subsidiary of MSCC in MSCC's consolidated financial statements.

MSCC has elected to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a regulated investment company ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). As a result, MSCC generally will not pay corporate-level U.S. federal income taxes on any net ordinary income or capital gains that it distributes to its stockholders.

MSCC has certain direct and indirect wholly owned subsidiaries that have elected to be taxable entities (the "Taxable Subsidiaries"). The primary purpose of the Taxable Subsidiaries is to permit

Table of Contents

MSCC to hold equity investments in portfolio companies which are "pass-through" entities for tax purposes. The External Investment Manager is also a direct wholly owned subsidiary that has elected to be a taxable entity. The Taxable Subsidiaries and the External Investment Manager are each taxed at their normal corporate tax rates based on their taxable income.

Unless otherwise noted or the context otherwise indicates, the terms "we," "us," "our" and "Main Street" refer to MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries, which include the Funds and the Taxable Subsidiaries.

OVERVIEW

Our principal investment objective is to maximize our portfolio's total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity and equity related investments, including warrants, convertible securities and other rights to acquire equity securities in a portfolio company. Our LMM companies generally have annual revenues between \$10 million and \$150 million, and our LMM portfolio investments generally range in size from \$5 million to \$50 million. Our Middle Market investments are made in businesses that are generally larger in size than our LMM portfolio companies, with annual revenues typically between \$150 million and \$1.5 billion, and our Middle Market investments generally range in size from \$3 million to \$15 million. Our private loan ("Private Loan") investments are made in businesses that are consistent with the size of companies in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. The structure, terms and conditions for these Private Loan investments are typically consistent with the structure, terms and conditions for the investments made in our LMM portfolio or Middle Market portfolio.

Our other portfolio ("Other Portfolio") investments primarily consist of investments which are not consistent with the typical profiles for our LMM, Middle Market or Private Loan portfolio investments, including investments which may be managed by third parties. In our Other Portfolio, we may incur indirect fees and expenses in connection with investments managed by third parties, such as investments in other investment companies or private funds.

Our external asset management business is conducted through our External Investment Manager. We have entered into an agreement to provide the External Investment Manager with asset management service support in connection with its asset management business generally, and specifically for its relationship with HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"). Through this agreement, we provide management and other services to the External Investment Manager, as well as access to our employees, infrastructure, business relationships, management expertise and capital raising capabilities. In the first quarter of 2014, we began charging the External Investment Manager for these services. Our total expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are net of expenses of \$0.8 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, charged to the External Investment Manager. The External Investment Manager earns management fees based on the assets of the funds under management and may earn incentive fees, or a carried interest, based on the performance of the funds managed.

We seek to fill the financing gap for LMM businesses, which, historically, have had more limited access to financing from commercial banks and other traditional sources. The underserved nature of the LMM creates the opportunity for us to meet the financing needs of LMM companies while also negotiating favorable transaction terms and equity participations. Our ability to invest across a company's capital structure, from secured loans to equity securities, allows us to offer portfolio companies a comprehensive suite of financing options, or a "one stop" financing solution. Providing customized, "one stop" financing solutions is important to LMM portfolio companies. We generally seek to partner directly with entrepreneurs, management teams and business owners in making our

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

investments. Our LMM portfolio debt investments are generally secured by a first lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between five and seven years from the original investment date. We believe that our LMM investment strategy has limited correlation to the broader debt and equity markets.

In addition to our LMM investment strategy, we pursue investments in Middle Market companies. Our Middle Market portfolio investments primarily consist of direct investments in or secondary purchases of interest bearing debt securities in privately held companies that are generally larger in size than the companies included in our LMM portfolio. Our Middle Market portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have an expected duration of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

Our Private Loan portfolio investments primarily consist of investments in interest bearing debt securities in companies that are consistent with the size of the companies included in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments that have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. Our Private Loan portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

The following tables provide a summary of our investments in the LMM, Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 (this information excludes the Other Portfolio investments and the External Investment Manager which are discussed further below):

| | As of March 31, 2015 | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | LMM(a) | Middle Market | Private Loan |
| | (dollars in millions) | | |
| Number of portfolio companies | 68 | 89 | 37 |
| Fair value | \$ 778.3 | \$ 627.8 | \$ 247.7 |
| Cost | \$ 640.7 | \$ 642.8 | \$ 261.8 |
| % of total investments at cost debt | 70.3% | 99.1% | 96.1% |
| % of total investments at cost equity | 29.7% | 0.9% | 3.9% |
| % of debt investments at cost secured by first priority lien | 89.8% | 85.2% | 87.2% |
| Weighted-average annual effective yield(b) | 13.1% | 7.9% | 9.9% |
| Average EBITDA(c) | \$ 5.4 | \$ 95.8 | \$ 12.1 |

(a) At March 31, 2015, we had equity ownership in approximately 94% of our LMM portfolio companies and the average fully diluted equity ownership in those portfolio companies was approximately 36%.

(b) The weighted-average annual effective yields were computed using the effective interest rates for all debt investments at cost as of March 31, 2015, including amortization of deferred debt origination fees and accretion of original issue discount but excluding fees payable upon repayment of the debt instruments and any debt investments on non-accrual status.

(c) The average EBITDA is calculated using a simple average for the LMM portfolio and a weighted-average for the Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios. These calculations exclude three LMM portfolio companies, one Middle Market portfolio company and five Private Loan portfolio

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

companies as EBITDA is not a meaningful valuation metric for our investments in these portfolio companies.

| | As of December 31, 2014 | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | LMM(a) | Middle Market | Private Loan |
| | (dollars in millions) | | |
| Number of portfolio companies | 66 | 86 | 31 |
| Fair value | \$ 733.2 | \$ 542.7 | \$ 213.0 |
| Cost | \$ 599.4 | \$ 561.8 | \$ 224.0 |
| % of total investments at cost debt | 71.5% | 99.8% | 95.6% |
| % of total investments at cost equity | 28.5% | 0.2% | 4.4% |
| % of debt investments at cost secured by first priority lien | 89.6% | 85.1% | 87.8% |
| Weighted-average annual effective yield(b) | 13.2% | 7.8% | 10.1% |
| Average EBITDA(c) | \$ 5.0 | \$ 77.2 | \$ 18.1 |

- (a) At December 31, 2014, we had equity ownership in approximately 95% of our LMM portfolio companies and our average fully diluted equity ownership in those portfolio companies was approximately 35%.
- (b) The weighted-average annual effective yields were computed using the effective interest rates for all debt investments at cost as of December 31, 2014, including amortization of deferred debt origination fees and accretion of original issue discount but excluding fees payable upon repayment of the debt instruments and any debt investments on non-accrual status.
- (c) The average EBITDA is calculated using a simple average for the LMM portfolio and a weighted average for the Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios. These calculations exclude two LMM portfolio companies, one Middle Market portfolio company and five Private Loan portfolio companies as EBITDA is not a meaningful valuation metric for our investments in these portfolio companies.

As of March 31, 2015, we had Other Portfolio investments in six companies, collectively totaling approximately \$58.7 million in fair value and approximately \$55.6 million in cost basis and which comprised approximately 3.4% of our Investment Portfolio (as defined in "Critical Accounting Policies Basis of Presentation" below). As of December 31, 2014, we had Other Portfolio investments in six companies, collectively totaling approximately \$58.9 million in fair value and approximately \$56.2 million in cost basis and which comprised approximately 3.8% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value.

As previously discussed, the External Investment Manager is a wholly owned subsidiary that is treated as a portfolio investment. As of March 31, 2015, there was no cost basis in this investment and the investment had a fair value of \$24.8 million, which comprised 1.4% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value. As of December 31, 2014, there was no cost basis in this investment and the investment had a fair value of \$15.6 million, which comprised 1.0% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value.

Our portfolio investments are generally made through MSCC and the Funds. MSCC and the Funds share the same investment strategies and criteria, although they are subject to different regulatory regimes. An investor's return in MSCC will depend, in part, on the Funds' investment returns as they are wholly owned subsidiaries of MSCC.

The level of new portfolio investment activity will fluctuate from period to period based upon our view of the current economic fundamentals, our ability to identify new investment opportunities that meet our investment criteria, and our ability to consummate the identified opportunities. The level of new investment activity, and associated interest and fee income, will directly impact future investment income. In addition, the level of dividends paid by portfolio companies and the portion of our portfolio

Table of Contents

debt investments on non-accrual status will directly impact future investment income. While we intend to grow our portfolio and our investment income over the long term, our growth and our operating results may be more limited during depressed economic periods. However, we intend to appropriately manage our cost structure and liquidity position based on applicable economic conditions and our investment outlook. The level of realized gains or losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation on our investments will also fluctuate depending upon portfolio activity, economic conditions and the performance of our individual portfolio companies. The changes in realized gains and losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation could have a material impact on our operating results.

Because we are internally managed, we do not pay any external investment advisory fees, but instead incurs the operating costs associated with employing investment and portfolio management professionals itself. We believe that our internally managed structure provides us with a beneficial operating expense structure when compared to other publicly traded and privately held investment firms which are externally managed, and our internally managed structure allows us the opportunity to leverage our non-interest operating expenses as we grow our Investment Portfolio. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, the ratio of our total operating expenses, excluding interest expense, as a percentage of our quarterly average total assets was 1.4% on an annualized basis which is consistent with the ratio on an annualized basis for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and for the year ended December 31, 2014.

During May 2012, we entered into an investment sub-advisory agreement with HMS Adviser, LP ("HMS Adviser"), which is the investment advisor to HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"), a non-publicly traded BDC whose registration statement on Form N-2 was declared effective by the SEC in June 2012, to provide certain investment advisory services to HMS Adviser. In December 2013, after obtaining required no-action relief from the SEC to allow us to own a registered investment adviser, we assigned the sub-advisory agreement to the External Investment Manager since the fees received from such arrangement could otherwise have negative consequences on MSCC's ability to meet the source-of-income requirement necessary for us to maintain our RIC tax treatment. Under the investment sub-advisory agreement, the External Investment Manager is entitled to 50% of the base management fee and the incentive fees earned by HMS Adviser under its advisory agreement with HMS Income. Based upon several fee waiver agreements with HMS Income and HMS Adviser, the External Investment Manager did not begin accruing the base management fee and incentive fees, if any, until January 1, 2014. Beginning January 1, 2015, the External Investment Manager conditionally agreed to waive a limited amount of the base management fee and incentive fees otherwise earned during the year ended December 31, 2015. During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the External Investment Manager earned \$1.4 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, of management fees (net of fees waived, if any) under the sub-advisory agreement with HMS Adviser.

During April 2014, we received an exemptive order from the SEC permitting co-investments by us and HMS Income in certain negotiated transactions where co-investing would otherwise be prohibited under the 1940 Act. We have made, and in the future intend to continue to make, such co-investments with HMS Income in accordance with the conditions of the order. The order requires, among other things, that we and the External Investment Manager consider whether each such investment opportunity is appropriate for HMS Income and, if it is appropriate, to propose an allocation of the investment opportunity between us and HMS Income. Because the External Investment Manager may receive performance-based fee compensation from HMS Income, this may provide an incentive to allocate opportunities to HMS Income instead of us.

Table of Contents

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"). For each of the periods presented herein, our consolidated financial statements include the accounts of MSCC and its consolidated subsidiaries. The Investment Portfolio, as used herein, refers to all of our investments in LMM portfolio companies, investments in Middle Market portfolio companies, Private Loan portfolio investments, Other Portfolio investments, and the investment in the External Investment Manager, but excludes all "Marketable securities and idle funds investments". "Marketable securities and idle funds investments" are classified as financial instruments and are reported separately on our consolidated balance sheets and consolidated schedules of investments due to the nature of such investments. Our results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, and financial position as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, are presented on a consolidated basis. The effects of all intercompany transactions between us and our consolidated subsidiaries have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period balances to conform to the current presentation, including reclassifying the expenses charged to the External Investment Manager.

Our accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements are presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP for interim financial information and pursuant to the requirements for reporting on Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, certain disclosures accompanying annual financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP are omitted. In the opinion of management, the unaudited consolidated financial results included herein contain all adjustments, consisting solely of normal recurring accruals, considered necessary for the fair presentation of financial statements for the interim periods included herein. The results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are not necessarily indicative of the operating results to be expected for the full year. Also, the unaudited financial statements and notes should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2014. Financial statements prepared on a U.S. GAAP basis require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts and disclosures reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Such estimates and assumptions could change in the future as more information becomes known, which could impact the amounts reported and disclosed herein.

Under regulations pursuant to Article 6 of Regulation S-X applicable to BDCs and Accounting Standards Codification ("Codification" or "ASC") 946, *Financial Services Investment Companies* ("ASC 946"), we are precluded from consolidating other entities in which we have equity investments, including those in which we have a controlling interest, unless the other entity is another investment company. An exception to this general principle in ASC 946 occurs if we hold a controlling interest in an operating company that provides all or substantially all of its services directly to us or to one of our portfolio companies. Accordingly, as noted above, our consolidated financial statements include the financial position and operating results for the Funds and the Taxable Subsidiaries. Our consolidated financial statements also include the financial position and operating results for our wholly owned operating subsidiary, Main Street Capital Partners, LLC, ("MSCP"), as the wholly owned subsidiary provides all of its services directly or indirectly to Main Street or our portfolio companies. We have determined that all of our portfolio investments do not qualify for this exception, including the investment in the External Investment Manager. Therefore, our Investment Portfolio is carried on the consolidated balance sheet at fair value with any adjustments to fair value recognized as "Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)" on the consolidated statements of operations until the investment is realized, usually upon exit, resulting in any gain or loss being recognized as a "Net Realized Gain (Loss)."

Table of Contents

Investment Portfolio Valuation

The most significant determination inherent in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements is the valuation of our Investment Portfolio and the related amounts of unrealized appreciation and depreciation. As of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, our Investment Portfolio valued at fair value represented approximately 95% and 92% of our total assets, respectively. We are required to report our investments at fair value. We follow the provisions of FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* ("ASC 820"). ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, establishes a fair value hierarchy based on the quality of inputs used to measure fair value, and enhances disclosure requirements for fair value measurements. ASC 820 requires us to assume that the portfolio investment is to be sold in the principal market to independent market participants, which may be a hypothetical market. Market participants are defined as buyers and sellers in the principal market that are independent, knowledgeable and willing and able to transact.

Our portfolio strategy calls for us to invest primarily in illiquid debt and equity securities issued by private, LMM companies and more liquid debt securities issued by Middle Market companies that are generally larger in size than the LMM companies. We categorize some of our investments in LMM companies and Middle Market companies as Private Loan portfolio investments, which are primarily debt securities issued by companies that are consistent in size with either the LMM companies or Middle Market companies, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. The structure, terms and conditions for these Private Loan investments are typically consistent with the structure, terms and conditions for the investments made in our LMM portfolio or Middle Market portfolio. Our portfolio also includes Other Portfolio investments which primarily consist of investments that are not consistent with the typical profiles for our LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments or Private Loan portfolio investments, including investments which may be managed by third parties. Our portfolio investments may be subject to restrictions on resale.

LMM investments and Other Portfolio investments generally have no established trading market while Middle Market securities generally have established markets that are not active. Private Loan investments may include investments which have no established trading market or have established markets that are not active. We determine in good faith the fair value of our Investment Portfolio pursuant to a valuation policy in accordance with ASC 820 and a valuation process approved by our Board of Directors and in accordance with the 1940 Act. Our valuation policies and processes are intended to provide a consistent basis for determining the fair value of our Investment Portfolio.

For LMM portfolio investments, we generally review external events, including private mergers, sales and acquisitions involving comparable companies, and include these events in the valuation process by using an enterprise value waterfall methodology ("Waterfall") for our LMM equity investments and an income approach using a yield-to-maturity model ("Yield-to-Maturity") for our LMM debt investments. For Middle Market portfolio investments, we primarily use quoted prices in the valuation process. We determine the appropriateness of the use of third-party broker quotes, if any, in determining fair value based on our understanding of the level of actual transactions used by the broker to develop the quote and whether the quote was an indicative price or binding offer, the depth and consistency of broker quotes and the correlation of changes in broker quotes with underlying performance of the portfolio company and other market indices. For Middle Market and Private Loan portfolio investments in debt securities for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value the investment in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method. For our Other Portfolio equity investments, we generally calculate the fair value of the investment primarily based on the net asset value ("NAV") of the fund. All of the valuation approaches for our portfolio investments estimate the value of the investment as if we were to sell, or exit, the investment as of the measurement date.

Table of Contents

These valuation approaches consider the value associated with our ability to control the capital structure of the portfolio company, as well as the timing of a potential exit. For valuation purposes, "control" portfolio investments are composed of debt and equity securities in companies for which we have a controlling interest in the equity ownership of the portfolio company or the ability to nominate a majority of the portfolio company's board of directors. For valuation purposes, "non-control" portfolio investments are generally composed of debt and equity securities in companies for which we do not have a controlling interest in the equity ownership of the portfolio company or the ability to nominate a majority of the portfolio company's board of directors.

Under the Waterfall valuation method, we estimate the enterprise value of a portfolio company using a combination of market and income approaches or other appropriate valuation methods, such as considering recent transactions in the equity securities of the portfolio company or third-party valuations of the portfolio company, and then perform a waterfall calculation by using the enterprise value over the portfolio company's securities in order of their preference relative to one another. The enterprise value is the fair value at which an enterprise could be sold in a transaction between two willing parties, other than through a forced or liquidation sale. Typically, private companies are bought and sold based on multiples of EBITDA, cash flows, net income, revenues, or in limited cases, book value. There is no single methodology for estimating enterprise value. For any one portfolio company, enterprise value is generally described as a range of values from which a single estimate of enterprise value is derived. In estimating the enterprise value of a portfolio company, we analyze various factors including the portfolio company's historical and projected financial results. The operating results of a portfolio company may include unaudited, projected, budgeted or pro forma financial information and may require adjustments for non-recurring items or to normalize the operating results that may require significant judgment in our determination. In addition, projecting future financial results requires significant judgment regarding future growth assumptions. In evaluating the operating results, we also analyze the impact of exposure to litigation, loss of customers or other contingencies. After determining the appropriate enterprise value, we allocate the enterprise value to investments in order of the legal priority of the various components of the portfolio company's capital structure. In applying the Waterfall valuation method, we assume the loans are paid off at the principal amount in a change in control transaction and are not assumed by the buyer, which we believe is consistent with our past transaction history and standard industry practices.

Under the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method, we use the income approach to determine the fair value of debt securities, based on projections of the discounted future free cash flows that the debt security will likely generate, including analyzing the discounted cash flows of interest and principal amounts for the debt security, as set forth in the associated loan agreements, as well as the financial position and credit risk of each of these portfolio investments. Our estimate of the expected repayment date of our debt securities is generally the legal maturity date of the instrument, as we generally intend to hold our loans and debt securities to maturity. The Yield-to-Maturity analysis considers changes in leverage levels, credit quality, portfolio company performance and other factors. We will use the value determined by the Yield-to-Maturity analysis as the fair value for that security; however, because of our general intent to hold our loans to maturity, the fair value will not exceed the principal amount of the debt security valued using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method. A change in the assumptions that we use to estimate the fair value of our debt securities using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method could have a material impact on the determination of fair value. If there is deterioration in credit quality or if a debt security is in workout status, we may consider other factors in determining the fair value of the debt security, including the value attributable to the debt security from the enterprise value of the portfolio company or the proceeds that would most likely be received in a liquidation analysis.

Under the NAV valuation method, for an investment in an investment fund that does not have a readily determinable fair value, we measure the fair value of the investment predominately based on the NAV of the investment fund as of the measurement date. However, in determining the fair value of

Table of Contents

the investment, we may consider whether adjustments to the NAV are necessary in certain circumstances, based on the analysis of any restrictions on redemption of our investment as of the measurement date, recent actual sales or redemptions of interests in the investment fund, and expected future cash flows available to equity holders, including the rate of return on those cash flows compared to an implied market return on equity required by market participants, or other uncertainties surrounding our ability to realize the full NAV of our interests in the investment fund.

Pursuant to our internal valuation process and the requirements under the 1940 Act, we perform valuation procedures on our portfolio investments quarterly. In addition to our internal valuation process, in determining the estimates of fair value for our investments in LMM portfolio companies, we, among other things, consult with a nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm. The nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm analyzes and provides observations and recommendations regarding the Company's determinations of the fair value of its LLM portfolio company investments. The nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm is generally consulted relative to our investments in each LMM portfolio company at least once in every calendar year, and for our investments in new LMM portfolio companies, at least once in the twelve-month period subsequent to the initial investment. In certain instances, we may determine that it is not cost-effective, and as a result is not in our stockholders' best interest, to consult with the nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm on our investments in one or more LMM portfolio companies. Such instances include, but are not limited to, situations where the fair value of our investment in a LMM portfolio company is determined to be insignificant relative to the total Investment Portfolio. We consulted with our independent financial advisory services firm in arriving at our determination of fair value on our investments in a total of 15 LMM portfolio companies for the three months ended March 31, 2015, representing approximately 23% of the total LMM portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2015, and on a total of 17 LMM portfolio companies for the three months ended March 31, 2014, representing approximately 29% of the total LMM portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2014. Excluding our investments in new LMM portfolio companies which have not been in the Investment Portfolio for at least twelve months subsequent to the initial investment as of March 31, 2015 and 2014, as applicable, and our investments in the LMM portfolio companies that were not reviewed because their equity is publicly traded, the percentage of the LMM portfolio reviewed by our independent financial advisory services firm for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was 27% and 32% of the total LMM portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

For valuation purposes, all of our Middle Market portfolio investments are non-control investments. To the extent sufficient observable inputs are available to determine fair value, we use observable inputs to determine the fair value of these investments through obtaining third-party quotes or other independent pricing. For Middle Market portfolio investments for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value such Middle Market debt investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method and such Middle Market equity investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Waterfall valuation method. The Company does not generally consult with any financial advisory services firms in connection with determining the fair value of its Middle Market debt investments.

For valuation purposes, all of our Private Loan portfolio investments are non-control investments. For Private Loan portfolio investments for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value such Private Loan debt investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method and such Private Loan equity investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Waterfall valuation method.

Table of Contents

For valuation purposes, all of our Other Portfolio investments are non-control investments. Our Other Portfolio investments comprised approximately 3.4% and 3.8%, respectively, of our Investment Portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014. Similar to the LMM investment portfolio, market quotations for Other Portfolio equity investments are generally not readily available. For our Other Portfolio equity investments, we generally determine the fair value of our investments using the NAV valuation method. For Other Portfolio debt investments, we generally determine the fair value of these investments through obtaining third-party quotes or other independent pricing to the extent that these inputs are available and appropriate to determine fair value. For Other Portfolio debt investments for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value such Other Portfolio debt investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method.

For valuation purposes, our investment in the External Investment Manager is a control investment. Market quotations are not readily available for this investment, and as a result, we determine the fair value of the External Investment Manager using the Waterfall valuation method under the market approach. In estimating the enterprise value, we analyze various factors, including the entity's historical and projected financial results, as well as its size, marketability and performance relative to the population of market multiples. This valuation approach estimates the value of the investment as if we were to sell, or exit, the investment. In addition, we consider the value associated with our ability to control the capital structure of the company, as well as the timing of a potential exit.

Due to the inherent uncertainty in the valuation process, our determination of fair value for our Investment Portfolio may differ materially from the values that would have been determined had a ready market for the securities existed. In addition, changes in the market environment, portfolio company performance and other events that may occur over the lives of the investments may cause the gains or losses ultimately realized on these investments to be materially different than the valuations currently assigned. We determine the fair value of each individual investment and record changes in fair value as unrealized appreciation or depreciation.

Our Board of Directors has the final responsibility for overseeing, reviewing and approving, in good faith, our determination of the fair value for our Investment Portfolio and our valuation procedures, consistent with 1940 Act requirements. We believe our Investment Portfolio as of March 31, 2015 and 2014 approximates fair value as of those dates based on the markets in which we operate and other conditions in existence on those reporting dates.

Revenue Recognition

Interest and Dividend Income

We record interest and dividend income on the accrual basis to the extent amounts are expected to be collected. Dividend income is recorded as dividends are declared by the portfolio company or at the point an obligation exists for the portfolio company to make a distribution. In accordance with our valuation policies, we evaluate accrued interest and dividend income periodically for collectability. When a loan or debt security becomes 90 days or more past due, and if we otherwise do not expect the debtor to be able to service all of its debt or other obligations, we will generally place the loan or debt security on non-accrual status and cease recognizing interest income on that loan or debt security until the borrower has demonstrated the ability and intent to pay contractual amounts due. If a loan or debt security's status significantly improves regarding the debtor's ability to service the debt or other obligations, or if a loan or debt security is fully impaired, sold or written off, we remove it from non-accrual status.

Table of Contents

Fee Income

We may periodically provide services, including structuring and advisory services, to our portfolio companies or other third parties. For services that are separately identifiable and evidence exists to substantiate fair value, fee income is recognized as earned, which is generally when the investment or other applicable transaction closes. Fees received in connection with debt financing transactions for services that do not meet these criteria are treated as debt origination fees and are deferred and accreted into interest income over the life of the financing.

Payment-in-Kind ("PIK") Interest and Cumulative Dividends

We hold certain debt and preferred equity instruments in our Investment Portfolio that contain payment-in-kind ("PIK") interest and cumulative dividend provisions. The PIK interest, computed at the contractual rate specified in each debt agreement, is periodically added to the principal balance of the debt and is recorded as interest income. Thus, the actual collection of this interest may be deferred until the time of debt principal repayment. Cumulative dividends are recorded as dividend income, and any dividends in arrears are added to the balance of the preferred equity investment. The actual collection of these dividends in arrears may be deferred until such time as the preferred equity is redeemed or sold. To maintain RIC tax treatment (as discussed below), these non-cash sources of income may need to be paid out to stockholders in the form of distributions, even though we may not have collected the PIK interest and cumulative dividends in cash. We stop accruing PIK interest and cumulative dividends and write off any accrued and uncollected interest and dividends in arrears when we determine that such PIK interest and dividends in arrears are no longer collectible. For the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, (i) approximately 2.2% and 5.4%, of our total investment income was attributable to PIK interest income not paid currently in cash and (ii) approximately 1.0% and 1.2%, respectively, of our total investment income was attributable to cumulative dividend income not paid currently in cash.

Share-Based Compensation

We account for our share-based compensation plans using the fair value method, as prescribed by ASC 718, *Compensation Stock Compensation*. Accordingly, for restricted stock awards, we measure the grant date fair value based upon the market price of our common stock on the date of the grant and amortize the fair value of the awards as share-based compensation expense over the requisite service period, which is generally the vesting term.

Income Taxes

MSCC has elected to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a RIC. MSCC's taxable income includes the taxable income generated by MSCC and certain of its subsidiaries, including the Funds, which are treated as disregarded entities for tax purposes. As a RIC, MSCC generally will not pay corporate-level U.S. federal income taxes on any net ordinary income or capital gains that MSCC distributes to its stockholders. MSCC must generally distribute at least 90% of its investment company taxable income to qualify for pass-through tax treatment and maintain its RIC status. As part of maintaining RIC status, undistributed taxable income (subject to a 4% U.S. Federal excise tax) pertaining to a given fiscal year may be distributed up to 12 months subsequent to the end of that fiscal year, provided such dividends are declared prior to the filing of the U.S. federal income tax return for the applicable fiscal year.

The Taxable Subsidiaries hold certain portfolio investments for us. The Taxable Subsidiaries permit us to hold equity investments in portfolio companies which are "pass-through" entities for tax purposes and to continue to comply with the "source-income" requirements contained in the RIC tax provisions of the Code. The Taxable Subsidiaries are consolidated with us for U.S. GAAP financial reporting

Table of Contents

purposes, and the portfolio investments held by the Taxable Subsidiaries are included in our consolidated financial statements as portfolio investments and recorded at fair value. The Taxable Subsidiaries are not consolidated with MSCC for income tax purposes and may generate income tax expense, or benefit, and tax assets and liabilities, as a result of their ownership of certain portfolio investments. The taxable income, or loss, of the Taxable Subsidiaries may differ from their book income, or loss, due to temporary book and tax timing differences and permanent differences. This income tax expense, or benefit, if any, and the related tax assets and liabilities, are reflected in our consolidated financial statements.

As previously discussed, MSCC's wholly owned subsidiary MSCP is included in our consolidated financial statements for financing reporting purposes. For tax purposes, MSCP has elected to be treated as a taxable entity, and therefore is not consolidated with MSCC for income tax purposes and is taxed at normal corporate tax rates based on its taxable income and, as a result of its activities, may generate income tax expense or benefit. The taxable income, or loss, of MSCP may differ from its book income, or loss, due to temporary book and tax timing differences and permanent differences. This income tax expense, or benefit, if any, and the related tax assets and liabilities, are reflected in our consolidated financial statements.

The Taxable Subsidiaries and MSCP use the liability method in accounting for income taxes. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recorded for temporary differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and their reported amounts in the financial statements, using statutory tax rates in effect for the year in which the temporary differences are expected to reverse. A valuation allowance is provided against deferred tax assets when it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax asset will not be realized.

Taxable income generally differs from net income for financial reporting purposes due to temporary and permanent differences in the recognition of income and expenses. Taxable income generally excludes net unrealized appreciation or depreciation, as investment gains or losses are not included in taxable income until they are realized.

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

LMM portfolio investments primarily consist of secured debt, equity warrants and direct equity investments in privately held, LMM companies based in the United States. Our LMM portfolio companies generally have annual revenues between \$10 million and \$150 million, and our LMM investments generally range in size from \$5 million to \$50 million. The LMM debt investments are typically secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company, generally bear interest at fixed rates, and generally have a term of between five and seven years from the original investment date. In most LMM portfolio companies, we receive nominally priced equity warrants and/or make direct equity investments in connection with a debt investment.

Middle Market portfolio investments primarily consist of direct investments in or secondary purchases of interest-bearing debt securities in privately held companies based in the United States that are generally larger in size than the companies included in our LMM portfolio. Our Middle Market portfolio companies generally have annual revenues between \$150 million and \$1.5 billion, and our Middle Market investments generally range in size from \$3 million to \$15 million. Our Middle Market portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

Our Private Loan portfolio investments primarily consist of investments in interest-bearing debt securities in companies that are consistent with the size of companies in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. Our Private Loan portfolio debt

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

Our Other Portfolio investments primarily consist of investments which are not consistent with the typical profiles for LMM, Middle Market and Private Loan portfolio investments, including investments which may be managed by third parties. In the Other Portfolio, we may incur indirect fees and expenses in connection with investments managed by third parties, such as investments in other investment companies or private funds.

Our external asset management business is conducted through our External Investment Manager. We have entered into an agreement to provide the External Investment Manager with asset management service support in connection with its asset management business generally, and specifically for its relationship with HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"). Through this agreement, we provide management and other services to the External Investment Manager, as well as access to our employees, infrastructure, business relationships, management expertise and capital raising capabilities. In the first quarter of 2014, we began charging the External Investment Manager for these services. Our total expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are net of expenses of \$0.8 million and \$0.3 million. The External Investment Manager earns management fees based on the assets of the funds under management and may earn incentive fees, or a carried interest, based on the performance of the funds managed.

The following tables summarize the composition of our total combined LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments at cost and fair value by type of investment as a percentage of the total combined LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 (this information excludes the Other Portfolio investments and the External Investment Manager).

| Cost: | March 31, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| First lien debt | 75.6% | 75.7% |
| Equity | 11.9% | 11.6% |
| Second lien debt | 10.0% | 10.0% |
| Equity warrants | 1.4% | 1.5% |
| Other | 1.1% | 1.2% |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |

| Fair Value: | March 31, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| First lien debt | 67.4% | 66.9% |
| Equity | 21.4% | 21.9% |
| Second lien debt | 9.3% | 9.2% |
| Equity warrants | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Other | 0.9% | 1.0% |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |

The following tables summarize the composition of our total combined LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments by geographic region of the United States or other countries at cost and fair value as a percentage of the total combined LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 (this information excludes the Other

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Portfolio investments and the External Investment Manager). The geographic composition is determined by the location of the corporate headquarters of the portfolio company.

| Cost: | March 31, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Southwest | 31.6% | 29.6% |
| Northeast | 21.1% | 19.9% |
| West | 16.9% | 18.7% |
| Southeast | 14.2% | 15.4% |
| Midwest | 13.7% | 13.5% |
| Canada | 0.6% | 0.7% |
| Other Non-United States | 1.9% | 2.2% |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |

| Fair Value: | March 31, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Southwest | 35.7% | 33.7% |
| Northeast | 19.8% | 18.3% |
| West | 18.0% | 20.4% |
| Midwest | 12.7% | 12.7% |
| Southeast | 11.5% | 12.4% |
| Canada | 0.6% | 0.6% |
| Other Non-United States | 1.7% | 1.9% |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

Our LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments are in companies conducting business in a variety of industries. The following tables summarize the composition of our total combined LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments by industry at cost and fair value as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 (this information excludes the Other Portfolio investments and the External Investment Manager).

| Cost: | March 31, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| Media | 7.5% | 8.3% |
| Energy Equipment & Services | 7.4% | 8.3% |
| IT Services | 6.7% | 5.9% |
| Machinery | 6.0% | 6.5% |
| Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure | 5.6% | 5.6% |
| Software | 5.5% | 5.4% |
| Specialty Retail | 4.8% | 4.7% |
| Construction & Engineering | 4.7% | 5.3% |
| Health Care Providers & Services | 4.6% | 4.9% |
| Internet Software & Services | 3.7% | 1.9% |
| Diversified Telecommunication Services | 3.6% | 4.0% |
| Diversified Consumer Services | 3.2% | 2.9% |
| Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components | 2.4% | 3.0% |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels | 2.4% | 2.5% |
| Pharmaceuticals | 2.4% | 1.8% |
| Food Products | 2.2% | 1.8% |
| Auto Components | 2.0% | 2.3% |
| Building Products | 2.0% | 1.1% |
| Health Care Equipment & Supplies | 1.9% | 2.1% |
| Road & Rail | 1.7% | 1.8% |
| Aerospace & Defense | 1.3% | 1.2% |
| Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods | 1.2% | 1.3% |
| Chemicals | 1.2% | 1.3% |
| Diversified Financial Services | 1.2% | 1.0% |
| Air Freight & Logistics | 1.2% | 0.9% |
| Leisure Equipment & Products | 1.2% | 0.5% |
| Trading Companies & Distributors | 1.1% | 1.2% |
| Professional Services | 1.1% | 1.1% |
| Commercial Services & Supplies | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Distributors | 0.9% | 1.0% |
| Other(1) | 8.3% | 9.4% |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |

(1) Includes various industries with each industry individually less than 1.0% of the total combined LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments at each date.

Table of Contents

| Fair Value: | March 31, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| Machinery | 7.4% | 8.1% |
| Media | 6.8% | 7.7% |
| Energy Equipment & Services | 6.5% | 7.9% |
| IT Services | 6.2% | 5.4% |
| Software | 5.7% | 5.5% |
| Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure | 5.6% | 5.6% |
| Construction & Engineering | 5.1% | 5.5% |
| Specialty Retail | 5.0% | 4.9% |
| Diversified Consumer Services | 4.7% | 4.4% |
| Health Care Providers & Services | 4.2% | 4.4% |
| Internet Software & Services | 4.0% | 2.3% |
| Diversified Telecommunication Services | 3.3% | 3.8% |
| Auto Components | 2.3% | 2.5% |
| Road & Rail | 2.3% | 2.3% |
| Pharmaceuticals | 2.3% | 1.7% |
| Food Products | 2.1% | 1.6% |
| Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components | 2.0% | 2.5% |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels | 2.0% | 1.9% |
| Health Care Equipment & Supplies | 1.8% | 1.9% |
| Building Products | 1.7% | 0.9% |
| Air Freight & Logistics | 1.4% | 0.8% |
| Aerospace & Defense | 1.2% | 1.1% |
| Diversified Financial Services | 1.2% | 1.0% |
| Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods | 1.1% | 1.2% |
| Chemicals | 1.1% | 1.2% |
| Leisure Equipment & Products | 1.1% | 0.4% |
| Trading Companies & Distributors | 1.0% | 1.1% |
| Commercial Services & Supplies | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Professional Services | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Paper & Forest Products | 0.9% | 1.2% |
| Distributors | 0.9% | 1.0% |
| Other(1) | 7.1% | 8.2% |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |

- (1) Includes various industries with each industry individually less than 1.0% of the total combined LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments at each date.

Our LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments and Private Loan portfolio investments carry a number of risks including, but not limited to: (1) investing in companies which may have limited operating histories and financial resources; (2) holding investments that generally are not publicly traded and which may be subject to legal and other restrictions on resale; and (3) other risks common to investing in below investment grade debt and equity investments in our Investment Portfolio. Please see "Risk Factors - Risks Related to Our Investments" contained in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 for a more complete discussion of the risks involved with investing in our Investment Portfolio.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO ASSET QUALITY**

We utilize an internally developed investment rating system to rate the performance of each LMM portfolio company and to monitor our expected level of returns on each of our LMM investments in relation to our expectations for the portfolio company. The investment rating system takes into consideration various factors, including but not limited to each investment's expected level of returns and the collectability of our debt investments, comparisons to competitors and other industry participants and the portfolio company's future outlook.

Investment Rating 1 represents a LMM portfolio company that is performing in a manner which significantly exceeds expectations.

Investment Rating 2 represents a LMM portfolio company that, in general, is performing above expectations.

Investment Rating 3 represents a LMM portfolio company that is generally performing in accordance with expectations.

Investment Rating 4 represents a LMM portfolio company that is underperforming expectations. Investments with such a rating require increased monitoring and scrutiny by us.

Investment Rating 5 represents a LMM portfolio company that is significantly underperforming. Investments with such a rating require heightened levels of monitoring and scrutiny by us and involve the recognition of significant unrealized depreciation on such investment.

All new LMM portfolio investments receive an initial Investment Rating of 3.

The following table shows the distribution of our LMM portfolio investments on the 1 to 5 investment rating scale at fair value as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

| Investment Rating | As of March 31, 2015 | | As of December 31, 2014 | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Investments at Fair Value | Percentage of Total Portfolio | Investments at Fair Value | Percentage of Total Portfolio |
| | (in thousands, except percentages) | | | |
| 1 | \$ 282,487 | 36.2% | \$ 287,693 | 39.2% |
| 2 | 168,539 | 21.7% | 133,266 | 18.2% |
| 3 | 232,851 | 29.9% | 239,100 | 32.6% |
| 4 | 83,116 | 10.7% | 61,475 | 8.4% |
| 5 | 11,307 | 1.5% | 11,657 | 1.6% |
| Total | \$ 778,300 | 100.0% | \$ 733,191 | 100.0% |

Based upon our investment rating system, the weighted-average rating of our LMM portfolio was approximately 2.2 as of both March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

As of March 31, 2015, our total Investment Portfolio had five investments with positive fair value on non-accrual status, which comprised approximately 1.2% of its fair value and 3.9% of its cost, and no fully impaired investments. As of December 31, 2014, our total Investment Portfolio had five investments with positive fair value on non-accrual status, which comprised approximately 1.7% of its fair value and 4.7% of its cost, and no fully impaired investments.

The operating results of our portfolio companies are impacted by changes in the broader fundamentals of the United States economy. In the event that the United States economy contracts, it is likely that the financial results of small-to mid-sized companies, like those in which we invest, could experience deterioration or limited growth from current levels, which could ultimately lead to difficulty in meeting their debt

service requirements and an increase in defaults. Consequently, we can provide no assurance that the performance of certain portfolio companies will not be negatively impacted by economic cycles or other conditions, which could also have a negative impact on our future results.

Table of Contents**DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS***Comparison of the three months ended March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2014*

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Net Change | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|--------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | Amount | % |
| | (in thousands) | | | |
| Total investment income | \$ 37,179 | \$ 30,776 | \$ 6,403 | 21% |
| Total expenses | (13,688) | (10,037) | (3,651) | 36% |
| Net investment income | 23,491 | 20,739 | 2,752 | 13% |
| Net realized gain (loss) from investments | (2,120) | 1,443 | (3,563) | |
| Net realized income | 21,371 | 22,182 | (811) | (4)% |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from: | | | | |
| Portfolio investments | 14,204 | 6,857 | 7,347 | |
| SBIC debentures and marketable securities and idle funds | (442) | (140) | (302) | |
| Total net change in unrealized appreciation | 13,762 | 6,717 | 7,045 | |
| Income tax benefit (provision) | 291 | (1,665) | 1,956 | (117)% |
| Net increase in net assets resulting from operations | \$ 35,424 | \$ 27,234 | \$ 8,190 | 30% |

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Net Change | |
|--|--|-----------|------------|-------|
| | 2015 | 2014 | Amount | % |
| | (in thousands, except per share amounts) | | | |
| Net investment income | \$ 23,491 | \$ 20,739 | \$ 2,752 | 13% |
| Share-based compensation expense | 1,263 | 853 | 410 | 48% |
| Distributable net investment income(a) | 24,754 | 21,592 | 3,162 | 15% |
| Net realized gain (loss) from investments | (2,120) | 1,443 | (3,563) | |
| Distributable net realized income(a) | \$ 22,634 | \$ 23,035 | \$ (401) | (2)% |
| Distributable net investment income per share Basic and diluted(a) | \$ 0.54 | \$ 0.54 | \$ | 0% |
| Distributable net realized income per share Basic and diluted(a) | \$ 0.49 | \$ 0.58 | \$ (0.09) | (16)% |

(a)

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income are net investment income and net realized income, respectively, as determined in accordance with U.S. GAAP, excluding the impact of share-based compensation expense which is non-cash in nature. We believe presenting distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income, and related per share amounts, is useful and appropriate supplemental disclosure of information for analyzing our financial performance since share-based compensation does not require settlement in cash. However, distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income are non-U.S. GAAP measures and should not be considered as a replacement to net investment income, net realized income, and other earnings measures presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Instead, distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income should be reviewed only in connection with such U.S. GAAP measures in analyzing our financial performance. A reconciliation of net investment income and net realized income in accordance with U.S. GAAP to distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income is presented in the table above.

Table of Contents

Investment Income

For the three months ended March 31, 2015, total investment income was \$37.2 million, a 21% increase over the \$30.8 million of total investment income for the corresponding period of 2014. This comparable period increase was principally attributable to (i) a \$4.3 million increase in interest income primarily from higher average levels of portfolio debt investments, (ii) a \$1.1 million increase in dividend income from Investment Portfolio equity investments and (iii) a \$0.8 million increase in fee income. The \$6.4 million increase in total investment income in the three months ended March 31, 2015 included a \$0.6 million net decrease in the amount of total investment income related to accelerated prepayment and repricing activity for certain Investment Portfolio debt investments when compared to the same period in 2014.

Expenses

For the three months ended March 31, 2015, total expenses increased to \$13.7 million from \$10.0 million for the corresponding period of 2014. This comparable period increase in operating expenses was principally attributable to (i) a \$2.5 million increase in interest expense, primarily as a result of (a) the issuance of our 4.50% Notes due 2019 (the "4.50% Notes") in November 2014 and (b) an increase in interest expense from our SBIC debentures due to a higher average interest rate, when compared to the prior year, (ii) a \$1.1 million increase in compensation expense related to increases in the number of personnel, base compensation and incentive compensation accruals and (iii) a \$0.4 million increase in share-based compensation expense, with these increases partially offset by (i) a \$0.5 million increase in the expenses charged to the External Investment Manager (see further discussion in "Overview"), in each case when compared to the prior year. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, the ratio of our total operating expenses, excluding interest expense, as a percentage of our quarterly average total assets was 1.4% on an annualized basis which is consistent with the ratio on an annualized basis for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Distributable Net Investment Income

Distributable net investment income increased 15% to \$24.8 million, or \$0.54 per share, compared with \$21.6 million, or \$0.54 per share, in the corresponding period of 2014. The increase in distributable net investment income was primarily due to the higher level of total investment income, partially offset by higher operating expenses as discussed above. Distributable net investment income on a per share basis for the three months ended March 31, 2015 reflects (i) a decrease of approximately \$0.02 per share from the comparable period in 2014 attributable to the net decrease in the comparable levels of accelerated prepayment and repricing activity for certain Investment Portfolio debt investments, and (ii) a greater number of average shares outstanding compared to the corresponding period in 2014 primarily due to the April 2014 and March 2015 equity offerings.

Net Investment Income

Net investment income for the three months ended March 31, 2015 was \$23.5 million, or a 13% increase, compared to net investment income of \$20.7 million for the corresponding period of 2014. The increase in net investment income was principally attributable to the increase in total investment income, partially offset by higher operating expenses as discussed above.

Distributable Net Realized Income

Distributable net realized income was \$22.6 million, or \$0.49 per share, for the three months ended March 31, 2015 compared with \$23.0 million, or \$0.58 per share, in the corresponding period of 2014. The \$0.4 million decrease was attributable to the \$3.2 million increase in total distributable net investment income in the three months ended March 31, 2015 when compared to the corresponding

Table of Contents

period of 2014 as discussed above, offset by to the \$3.6 million decrease in the net realized gain (loss) from investments from the comparable period in the prior year due to a net realized loss from investments of \$2.1 million in the three months ended March 31, 2015. The net realized loss from investments of \$2.1 million during the three months ended March 31, 2015 was primarily attributable to the net realized loss of \$2.6 million on the restructuring of a Middle Market investment, partially offset by net realized gains on several Investment Portfolio investments.

Net Realized Income

The \$0.8 million decrease in net realized income compared with the corresponding period of 2014 was due to the higher level of net investment income in the three months ended March 31, 2015, offset by the \$3.6 million decrease in the net realized gain (loss) from investments in the three months ended March 31, 2015 when compared to the corresponding period of 2014, in each case as discussed above.

Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations

The net increase in net assets resulting from operations during the three months ended March 31, 2015 was \$35.4 million, or \$0.77 per share, compared with \$27.2 million, or \$0.68 per share, during the three months ended March 31, 2014. This increase from the prior year was primarily the result of (i) a \$2.8 million increase in net investment income and (ii) a \$7.0 million increase in the net change in unrealized appreciation to a net change in unrealized appreciation of \$13.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and (iii) a \$2.0 million decrease in the income tax provision from the prior year to an income tax benefit of \$0.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015, with these changes partially offset by a \$3.6 million decrease in the net realized gain (loss) from investments to a net realized loss of \$2.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015.

The following table provides a summary of the total net change in unrealized appreciation of \$13.8 million for the first quarter of 2015:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 | | | | | Total |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| | LMM(a) | Middle Market | Private Loan | Other(b) | | |
| | (dollars in millions) | | | | | |
| Accounting reversals of net unrealized (appreciation)/depreciation recognized in prior periods due to net realized (gains)/losses recognized during period | \$ 0.1 | \$ 2.5 | \$ (0.4) | \$ | \$ 2.2 | |
| Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) relating to portfolio investments | 3.8 | 1.6 | (3.1) | 9.7 | 12.0 | |
| Total net unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) relating to portfolio investments | \$ 3.9 | \$ 4.1 | \$ (3.5) | \$ 9.7 | 14.2 | |
| Net unrealized appreciation relating to marketable securities | | | | | 0.3 | |
| Unrealized depreciation relating to SBIC debentures(c) | | | | | (0.7) | |
| Total net unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) | | | | | \$ 13.8 | |

(a) LMM includes unrealized appreciation on 22 LMM portfolio investments and unrealized depreciation on 13 LMM portfolio investments.

(b) Other includes \$9.3 million of unrealized appreciation relating to the External Investment Manager and \$0.4 million of net unrealized appreciation relating to the Other Portfolio.

(c) Relates to unrealized depreciation on the SBIC debentures held by MSC II which are accounted for on a fair value basis.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

The income tax benefit for the three months ended March 31, 2015 of \$0.3 million principally consisted of (i) a deferred tax benefit of \$0.7 million, which is primarily the result of deferred taxes on net unrealized depreciation on our portfolio investments held in our Taxable Subsidiaries and the change in net operating loss carryforwards, both of which are non-cash in nature, and (ii) other current taxes of \$0.4 million, which is primarily related to accruals for U.S. federal income and excise taxes, state and other taxes.

Comparison of years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

| | Twelve Months Ended December 31, | | Net Change | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|------|
| | 2014 | 2013 | Amount | % |
| | (in thousands) | | | |
| Total investment income | \$ 140,763 | \$ 116,497 | \$ 24,266 | 21% |
| Total expenses | (45,227) | (41,074) | (4,153) | 10% |
| Net investment income | 95,536 | 75,423 | 20,113 | 27% |
| Net realized gain from investments | 23,206 | 7,277 | 15,929 | 219% |
| Net realized loss from SBIC debentures | | (4,775) | 4,775 | |
| Net realized income | 118,742 | 77,925 | 40,817 | 52% |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from: | | | | |
| Portfolio investments | (824) | 16,155 | (16,979) | |
| SBIC debentures and marketable securities and idle funds | (10,883) | 2,740 | (13,623) | |
| Total net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) | (11,707) | 18,895 | (30,602) | |
| Income tax benefit (provision) | (6,287) | 35 | (6,322) | |
| Net increase in net assets resulting from operations | \$ 100,748 | \$ 96,855 | \$ 3,893 | 4% |

| | Twelve Months Ended December 31, | | Net Change | |
|--|--|-----------|------------|------|
| | 2014 | 2013 | Amount | % |
| | (in thousands, except per share amounts) | | | |
| Net investment income | \$ 95,536 | \$ 75,423 | \$ 20,113 | 27% |
| Share-based compensation expense | 4,215 | 4,210 | 5 | 0% |
| Distributable net investment income(a) | 99,751 | 79,633 | 20,118 | 25% |
| Net realized gain from investments | 23,206 | 7,277 | 15,929 | 219% |
| Net realized loss from SBIC debentures | | (4,775) | 4,775 | |
| Distributable net realized income(a) | \$ 122,957 | \$ 82,135 | \$ 40,822 | 50% |
| Distributable net investment income per share Basic and diluted(a) | \$ 2.29 | \$ 2.17 | \$ 0.12 | 6% |
| Distributable net realized income per share Basic and diluted(a) | \$ 2.83 | \$ 2.24 | \$ 0.59 | 26% |

(a)

Distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income are net investment income and net realized income, respectively, as determined in accordance with U.S. GAAP, excluding the impact of share-based compensation expense which is non-cash in nature. We believe presenting distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income, and related per share amounts, is useful and appropriate supplemental disclosure of information for analyzing our financial performance since share-based compensation does not require settlement in cash.

Table of Contents

However, distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income are non-U.S. GAAP measures and should not be considered as a replacement to net investment income, net realized income, and other earnings measures presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Instead, distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income should be reviewed only in connection with such U.S. GAAP measures in analyzing our financial performance. A reconciliation of net investment income and net realized income in accordance with U.S. GAAP to distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income is presented in the table above.

Investment Income

For the year ended December 31, 2014, total investment income was \$140.8 million, a 21% increase over the \$116.5 million of total investment income for the corresponding period of 2013. This comparable period increase was principally attributable to (i) a \$15.9 million increase in interest income from higher average levels of portfolio debt investments, (ii) an \$8.1 million increase in dividend income from Investment Portfolio equity investments and (iii) a \$0.8 million increase in fee income from higher origination activity and refinancing and prepayment activity, partially offset by a \$0.6 million decrease in interest and dividend income due to a lower level of Marketable securities and idle funds investments. The \$24.3 million increase in total investment income in the year ended December 31, 2014 includes a \$1.3 million net decrease in investment income related to accelerated prepayment and repricing activity for certain Investment Portfolio debt investments and Marketable securities and idle funds investments and \$1.6 million of unusual dividend income.

Expenses

For the year ended December 31, 2014, total expenses increased to \$45.2 million from \$41.1 million for the corresponding period of 2013. This comparable period increase in operating expenses was principally attributable to (i) a \$3.4 million increase in interest expense, primarily as a result of (a) the issuance of our 6.125% Notes due 2023 (the "6.125% Notes") in April 2013, (b) the issuance of our 4.50% Notes due 2019 (the "4.50% Notes") in November 2014 and (c) a higher average outstanding balance on our credit facility ("Credit Facility") when compared to prior year, partially offset by a decrease in interest expense from our SBIC debentures due to a lower average interest rate, in both cases when compared to the prior year, (ii) a \$1.0 million increase in compensation expense related to increases in the number of personnel, base compensation and other incentive compensation accruals and (iii) a \$1.8 million increase related to other general and administrative expenses, partially offset by (i) a \$2.0 million decrease in expenses related to the expenses charged to the External Investment Manager (see further discussion in "Overview"), in each case when compared to the prior year. Share-based compensation expense was \$4.2 million for 2014, which is unchanged from 2013, due to the net effect of the non-recurring accelerated vesting of restricted stock of our retired Executive Vice-Chairman in 2013, which resulted in additional share-based compensation expense of \$1.3 million in the prior year, which was offset by an increase of \$1.3 million related to non-cash amortization for the vesting of restricted share grants in 2014. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the ratio of our total operating expenses, excluding interest expense, as a percentage of our quarterly average total assets was 1.4% compared to 1.7% for the year ended December 31, 2013 (the prior year comparison excluding the effect of the accelerated vesting as discussed above). Including the effect of the accelerated vesting of restricted stock, the ratio would have been 1.8% for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Distributable Net Investment Income

Distributable net investment income increased 25% to \$99.8 million, or \$2.29 per share, compared with \$79.6 million, or \$2.17 per share, in the corresponding period of 2013. The increase in

Table of Contents

distributable net investment income was primarily due to the higher level of total investment income partially offset by higher operating expenses, due to the changes discussed above. Distributable net investment income on a per share basis for the year ended December 31, 2014 reflects (i) a decrease of approximately \$0.06 per share from the comparable period in 2013 attributable to the net decrease in the comparable levels of accelerated prepayment and repricing activity for certain investment portfolio debt investments, (ii) approximately \$0.04 per share attributable to the unusual dividend income as discussed above and (iii) a greater number of average shares outstanding compared to the corresponding period in 2013 primarily due to the August 2013 and April 2014 follow-on equity offerings.

Net Investment Income

Net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2014 was \$95.5 million, or a 27% increase, compared to net investment income of \$75.4 million for the corresponding period of 2013. The increase in net investment income was principally attributable to the increase in total investment income partially offset by higher operating expenses as discussed above.

Distributable Net Realized Income

Distributable net realized income was \$123.0 million, or \$2.83 per share, for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared with \$82.1 million, or \$2.24 per share, in the corresponding period of 2013. The \$40.8 million increase was primarily attributable to (i) the \$20.1 million increase in total distributable net investment income in the year ended December 31, 2014 when compared to the corresponding period of 2013 as discussed above, (ii) the \$15.9 million increase in the net realized gain from investments for the year ended December 31, 2014 and (iii) the \$4.8 million decrease in the net realized loss from SBIC debentures to zero for the year ended December 31, 2014. The net realized gain from investments of \$23.2 million during the year ended December 31, 2014 was primarily attributable to (i) \$27.1 million of realized gains recognized on the exit of four LMM portfolio investments in 2014 and (ii) net realized gains on several Middle Market investments totaling \$2.0 million, partially offset by a net realized loss of \$6.5 million in conjunction with a change in control transaction involving a LMM portfolio company in the second quarter of 2014.

Net Realized Income

The higher level of net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2014 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2013, the \$15.9 million increase in the net realized gain from investments in the year ended December 31, 2014 as compared to December 31, 2013 and the \$4.8 million decrease in the net realized loss from SBIC debentures recognized in year ended December 31, 2013, in each case as discussed above, resulted in a \$40.8 million increase in net realized income compared with the corresponding period of 2013.

Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations

The net increase in net assets resulting from operations during the year ended December 31, 2014 was \$100.7 million, or \$2.31 per share, compared with \$96.9 million, or \$2.65 per share, during the year ended December 31, 2013. This increase from the prior year was primarily the result of (i) a \$20.1 million increase in net investment income and (ii) a \$15.9 million increase in the net realized gain (loss) from investments and (iii) the \$4.8 million decrease in the net realized loss from SBIC debentures, in each case due to the factors discussed above, partially offset by (i) a \$30.6 million decrease in net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) to \$11.7 million of net unrealized depreciation for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared to \$18.9 million of net unrealized appreciation in the prior year and (ii) a \$6.3 million increase in the income tax provision from the prior year. The total net unrealized depreciation for the year ended December 31, 2014 of \$11.7 million

Table of Contents

included (i) net unrealized appreciation totaling \$33.7 million on LMM portfolio investments, including unrealized appreciation on 39 LMM portfolio investments and unrealized depreciation on 12 LMM portfolio investments, (ii) \$14.5 million of unrealized appreciation on the External Investment Manager, and (iii) \$0.3 million of net unrealized appreciation on Other Portfolio investments, offset by (i) accounting reversals of net unrealized appreciation from prior periods of \$20.7 million related to portfolio investment exits and repayments, (ii) \$18.7 million of net unrealized depreciation on Middle Market portfolio investments, (iii) \$10.9 million of unrealized depreciation on the SBIC debentures held by MSC II which are accounted for on a fair value basis, and (iv) \$9.9 million of net unrealized depreciation on Private Loan portfolio investments. The income tax provision for the year ended December 31, 2014 of \$6.3 million principally consisted of deferred taxes of \$3.3 million, which is primarily the result of the impact on deferred taxes related to the utilization of net operating losses and net unrealized appreciation on our portfolio investments held in our Taxable Subsidiaries, and other taxes of \$3.0 million, which includes a \$1.4 million accrual for U.S. federal excise tax on our estimated spillover taxable income and \$1.6 million related to accruals for state and other taxes.

Comparison of years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012

| | Twelve Months Ended | | Net Change | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|------------|-------|
| | December 31, 2013 | December 31, 2012 | Amount | % |
| | (dollars in millions) | | | |
| Total investment income | \$ 116.5 | \$ 90.5 | \$ 26.0 | 29% |
| Total expenses | (41.1) | (31.2) | (9.9) | 32% |
| Net investment income | 75.4 | 59.3 | 16.1 | 27% |
| Net realized gain from investments | 7.3 | 16.5 | (9.2) | (56)% |
| Net realized loss from SBIC debentures | (4.8) | | (4.8) | |
| Net realized income | 77.9 | 75.8 | 2.1 | 3% |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) from: | | | | |
| Portfolio investments | 16.2 | 44.7 | (28.5) | (64)% |
| SBIC debentures, marketable securities and idle funds and investment in the Internal Investment Manager | 2.8 | (5.2) | 8.0 | |
| Total net change in unrealized appreciation | 19.0 | 39.5 | (20.5) | (52)% |
| Income tax provision | | (10.8) | 10.8 | |
| Noncontrolling interest | | (0.1) | 0.1 | |
| Net increase in net assets resulting from operations attributable to common stock | \$ 96.9 | \$ 104.4 | \$ (7.5) | (7)% |

Table of Contents

| | Twelve Months Ended | | Net Change | |
|---|-----------------------|---------|------------|-------|
| | December 31, | | Amount | % |
| | 2013 | 2012 | | |
| | (dollars in millions) | | | |
| Net investment income | \$ 75.4 | \$ 59.3 | \$ 16.1 | 27% |
| Share-based compensation expense | 4.2 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 64% |
| Distributable net investment income(a) | 79.6 | 61.9 | 17.7 | 29% |
| Net realized gain from investments | 7.3 | 16.5 | (9.2) | (56)% |
| Net realized loss from SBIC debentures | (4.8) | | (4.8) | |
| Distributable net realized income(a) | 82.1 | 78.4 | 3.7 | 5% |
| Distributable net investment income per share Basic and diluted(a)(b) | \$ 2.17 | \$ 2.09 | \$ 0.08 | 4% |
| Distributable net realized income per share Basic and diluted(a)(b) | \$ 2.24 | \$ 2.65 | \$ (0.41) | (15)% |

- (a) Distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income are net investment income and net realized income, respectively, as determined in accordance with U.S. GAAP, excluding the impact of share-based compensation expense which is non-cash in nature. We believe presenting distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income, and related per share amounts, is useful and appropriate supplemental disclosure of information for analyzing our financial performance since share-based compensation does not require settlement in cash. However, distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income are non-U.S. GAAP measures and should not be considered as a replacement to net investment income, net realized income, and other earnings measures presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Instead, distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income should be reviewed only in connection with such U.S. GAAP measures in analyzing our financial performance. A reconciliation of net investment income and net realized income in accordance with U.S. GAAP to distributable net investment income and distributable net realized income is presented in the table above.
- (b) Per share amounts exclude the earnings attributable to the noncontrolling equity interests in MSC II not owned by Main Street for the periods prior to the completion of the Final MSC II Exchange during the first quarter of 2012.

Investment Income

For the year ended December 31, 2013, total investment income was \$116.5 million, a 29% increase over the \$90.5 million of total investment income for the corresponding period of 2012. This comparable period increase was principally attributable to (i) a \$22.4 million increase in interest income from higher average levels of portfolio debt investments and increased activity in the Investment Portfolio and (ii) a \$3.9 million increase in dividend income from Investment Portfolio equity investments, partially offset by a \$0.3 million decrease in interest and dividend income from Marketable securities and idle funds investments. The \$26.0 million increase in investment income in the year ended December 31, 2013 includes a \$1.7 million decrease in the amount of non-recurring investment income associated with debt repayment and financing activities of LMM portfolio investments included in investment income, partially offset by a \$1.1 million increase in the amount of investment income related to higher accelerated prepayment and repricing activity of certain Middle Market and Private Loan portfolio debt investments and Marketable securities and idle funds investments in each case for the year ended December 31, 2013, when compared to the same period in 2012.

Table of Contents*Expenses*

For the year ended December 31, 2013, total expenses increased to \$41.1 million from \$31.2 million for the corresponding period of 2012. This comparable period increase in expenses was principally attributable to (i) a \$4.6 million increase in interest expense, (ii) higher compensation and related expenses of \$2.1 million, primarily as a result of additional personnel compared to the same period in the prior year, (iii) a \$1.6 million increase in other general and administrative expenses and (iv) an increase of \$1.6 million in share-based compensation, primarily due to \$1.3 million of expense associated with the accelerated vesting of all the unvested shares of restricted stock in connection with the retirement of our former Executive Vice-Chairman during the year ended December 31, 2013. The \$4.6 million increase in interest expense was primarily a result of (i) a \$4.4 million increase primarily related to the issuance of the 6.125% Notes in April 2013 and (ii) a \$1.3 million increase related to a higher average outstanding balance on the Credit Facility, partially offset by a \$1.1 million decrease related to prepayments on our Small Business Investment Company ("SBIC") debentures and lower average interest rates on the SBIC debentures. The ratio of our total operating expenses, excluding interest expense and excluding the effect of the accelerated vesting of restricted stock of our former Executive Vice-Chairman discussed above, as a percentage of our average total assets was 1.7% for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to 1.8% for the prior year. Including the effect of the accelerated vesting of restricted stock of our former Executive Vice-Chairman, the ratio would have been 1.8% for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Distributable Net Investment Income

Distributable net investment income increased \$17.7 million to \$79.6 million, or \$2.17 per share, compared with \$61.9 million, or \$2.09 per share, in the corresponding period of 2012. The increase in distributable net investment income was primarily due to the higher level of total investment income partially offset by higher interest and other operating expenses, due to the changes discussed above. The distributable net investment income on a per share basis for the year ended December 31, 2013 reflects the impact of a greater number of average shares outstanding compared to the corresponding period in 2012 primarily due to the June 2012, December 2012 and August 2013 follow-on equity offerings.

Net Investment Income

Net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2013 was \$75.4 million, or a 27% increase, compared to net investment income of \$59.3 million for the corresponding period of 2012. The increase in net investment income was principally attributable to the increase in total investment income partially offset by higher interest and other operating expenses as discussed above.

Distributable Net Realized Income

Distributable net realized income was \$82.1 million, or \$2.24 per share, for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared with \$78.4 million, or \$2.65 per share, in the corresponding period of 2012. The \$3.7 million increase was primarily attributable to higher distributable net investment income in the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to the corresponding period of 2012 as discussed above, partially offset by (i) a decrease in net realized gain from investments of \$9.2 million, to \$7.3 million in 2013 from \$16.5 million in prior year, and (ii) a realized loss of \$4.8 million on the repayment of certain SBIC debentures issued to MSC II which had been accounted for on the fair value method of accounting under ASC 825. The \$7.3 million net realized gain on investments during the year ended December 31, 2013 was primarily attributable to (i) a realized gain of \$11.3 million on the full exit of two LMM equity investments, (ii) realized gains of \$1.0 million on the partial exits of several LMM investments, (iii) net realized gains on several Middle Market and Marketable securities and idle funds investments totaling \$1.9 million, partially offset by (i) realized losses of \$2.6 million on

Table of Contents

the restructuring of a LMM equity investment and \$1.8 million on the full exit of one LMM investment, respectively, and (ii) the realized loss of \$1.8 million on the full exit of one Middle Market investment.

Net Realized Income

The lower net realized gain from investments and the realized loss from the SBIC debentures, partially offset by the higher net investment income, in the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to the corresponding period of 2012, in each case as discussed above, resulted in a \$2.1 million increase in net realized income compared with the corresponding period of 2012.

Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations Attributable to Common Stock

The net increase in net assets resulting from operations attributable to common stock during the year ended December 31, 2013 was \$96.9 million, or \$2.65 per share, compared with \$104.4 million, or \$3.53 per share, in the corresponding period of 2012. This \$7.5 million decrease from the comparable period in the prior year was primarily the result of the \$20.5 million difference in the net change in unrealized appreciation to \$19.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$39.5 million for the comparable period in the prior year, partially offset by (i) a \$10.8 million decrease in the net income tax provision and (ii) the \$2.1 million increase in net realized income due to the factors discussed above, both for the year ended December 31, 2013 in comparison to the comparable period in the prior year. The total net change in unrealized appreciation for the year ended December 31, 2013 of \$19.0 million included (i) \$16.2 million of net unrealized appreciation from portfolio investments and (ii) the net unrealized appreciation of \$4.4 million on the SBIC debentures, which resulted from the \$4.8 million of accounting reversals of prior unrealized depreciation on the SBIC debentures in conjunction with the realized loss on the repayment of the SBIC debentures as discussed above, partially offset by net unrealized depreciation of \$0.4 million on the remaining SBIC debentures held by MSC II, partially offset by the net unrealized depreciation from Marketable securities and idle funds investments of \$1.7 million. The \$16.2 million net change in unrealized appreciation from portfolio investments for the year ended December 31, 2013 was principally attributable to (i) unrealized appreciation on 37 LMM portfolio investments totaling \$60.6 million, partially offset by unrealized depreciation on 15 LMM portfolio investments totaling \$38.8 million, (ii) \$3.7 million of net unrealized appreciation on Middle Market investments, (iii) \$1.1 million of net unrealized appreciation on the External Investment Manager and (iv) \$2.2 million of net unrealized appreciation on the Other Portfolio investments, partially offset by accounting reversals of net unrealized appreciation from prior periods of \$12.8 million related to portfolio investment exits and repayments. The net income tax benefit for the year ended December 31, 2013 related to a deferred tax benefit of \$3.6 million, partially offset by an income tax provision on other taxes of \$3.6 million. The deferred taxes related primarily to net unrealized depreciation on equity investments held in our Taxable Subsidiaries. The other taxes include \$1.8 million related to an accrual for excise tax on our estimated spillover taxable income and \$1.8 million related to accruals for state and other taxes.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Cash Flows

For the three months ended March 31, 2015, we experienced a net decrease in cash and cash equivalents in the amount of \$38.4 million, which is the net result of \$92.6 million of cash used for our operating activities and \$54.2 million provided by financing activities.

During the period, we used \$92.6 million of cash for our operating activities, which resulted primarily from (i) cash flows we generated from the operating profits earned through our operating activities totaling \$22.2 million, which is our \$24.8 million of distributable net investment income,

Table of Contents

excluding the non-cash effects of the accretion of unearned income of \$2.0 million, payment-in-kind interest income of \$0.8 million, cumulative dividends of \$0.4 million and the amortization expense for deferred financing costs of \$0.6 million, (ii) cash uses totaling \$265.2 million which primarily resulted from (a) the funding of new portfolio company investments and settlement of accruals for portfolio investments existing as of December 31, 2014, which together total \$256.0 million, (b) the funding of new Marketable securities and idle funds investments and settlement of accruals for Marketable securities and idle funds investments existing as of December 31, 2014, which together total \$2.0 million, (c) \$7.1 million related to decreases in payables and accruals and (d) increases in other assets of \$0.1 million, and (iii) cash proceeds totaling \$150.4 million from (a) \$149.1 million in cash proceeds from the repayments of debt investments and sales of equity investments and (b) \$1.3 million of cash proceeds from the sale of Marketable securities and idle funds investments.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, \$54.2 million in cash was provided by financing activities, which principally consisted of \$127.8 million in net cash proceeds from a public equity offering in March 2015, partially offset by (i) \$54.0 million in net cash repayments of the Credit Facility and (ii) \$19.5 million in cash dividends paid to stockholders.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, we experienced a net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the amount of \$25.7 million, which is the net result of \$190.9 million of cash used for our operating activities and \$216.6 million provided by financing activities.

During the period, we used \$190.9 million of cash for our operating activities, which resulted primarily from (i) cash flows we generated from the ordinary operating profits earned through our operating activities totaling \$84.5 million, which is our \$99.8 million of distributable net investment income, excluding the non-cash effects of the accretion of unearned income of \$10.5 million, payment-in-kind interest income of \$4.7 million, cumulative dividends of \$1.8 million and the amortization expense for deferred financing costs of \$1.7 million, (ii) cash uses totaling \$858.2 million from (a) the funding of new portfolio company investments and settlement of accruals for portfolio investments existing as of December 31, 2013, which together total \$831.2 million, (b) the funding of new Marketable securities and idle funds investments and settlement of accruals for Marketable securities and idle funds investments existing as of December 31, 2013, which together total \$22.7 million and (c) increases in other assets of \$4.3 million, and (iii) cash proceeds totaling \$582.8 million from (a) \$554.7 million in cash proceeds from the repayments of debt investments and sales of equity investments, (b) \$27.0 million of cash proceeds from the sale of Marketable securities and idle funds investments and (c) \$1.1 million related to increases in payables and accruals.

During 2014, \$216.6 million in cash was provided by financing activities, which principally consisted of (i) \$175.0 million in proceeds from the issuance of the 4.50% Notes in November 2014, (ii) \$139.7 million in net cash proceeds from a follow-on public equity offering in April 2014 and (iii) \$24.8 million in cash proceeds from the issuance of SBIC debentures, partially offset by (i) \$95.9 million in cash dividends paid to stockholders, (ii) \$19.0 million in net cash repayments of the Credit Facility, (iii) \$6.4 million in loan costs associated with our SBIC debentures, the 4.50% Notes and the Credit Facility and (iv) \$1.5 million in other costs.

For the year ended December 31, 2013, we experienced a net decrease in cash and cash equivalents in the amount of \$28.8 million, which is the net result of \$240.7 million of cash used for our operating activities and \$211.9 million provided by financing activities.

During the period, we used \$240.7 million of cash for our operating activities, which resulted primarily from (i) cash flows we generated from the ordinary operating profits earned through our operating activities totaling \$63.8 million, which is our \$79.6 million of distributable net investment income, excluding the non-cash effects of the accretion of unearned income of \$10.9 million, payment-in-kind interest income of \$5.0 million, cumulative dividends of \$1.4 million and the amortization expense for deferred financing costs of \$1.5 million, (ii) cash uses totaling \$824.8 million

Table of Contents

from (a) the funding of new portfolio company investments and settlement of accruals for portfolio investments existing as of December 31, 2012, which together total \$767.5 million, (b) the funding of new Marketable securities and idle funds investments and settlement of accruals for Marketable securities and idle funds investments existing as of December 31, 2012, which together total \$54.0 million, and (c) \$3.3 million related to decreases in payables and accruals, and (iii) cash proceeds totaling \$520.3 million from (a) \$465.0 million in cash proceeds from the repayments or sales of debt investments and sales of equity investments, (b) \$51.7 million of cash proceeds from the sale of Marketable securities and idle funds investments and (c) decreases in other assets of \$3.6 million.

During 2013, \$211.9 million in cash was provided by financing activities, which principally consisted of (i) \$131.5 million in net cash proceeds from a follow-on public equity offering in August 2013, (ii) \$105.0 million in net cash proceeds from the Credit Facility and (iii) \$92.0 million in cash proceeds from the issuance of the 6.125% Notes, partially offset by (i) a \$24.8 million net decrease in outstanding SBIC debentures resulting from \$63.8 million in repayments of SBIC debentures, net of \$39.0 million in proceeds from the issuance of SBIC debentures, (ii) \$83.2 million in cash dividends paid to stockholders and (iii) \$6.3 million in loan costs associated with our SBIC debentures, our Notes and the Credit Facility.

Capital Resources

As of March 31, 2015, we had \$22.0 million in cash and cash equivalents, \$9.9 million in Marketable securities and idle funds investments and \$408.5 million of unused capacity under the Credit Facility, which we maintain to support our investment and operating activities. As of March 31, 2015, our net asset value totaled \$1,083.9 million, or \$21.87 per share.

As of December 31, 2014, we had \$60.4 million in cash and cash equivalents, \$9.1 million in Marketable securities and idle funds investments and \$354.5 million of unused capacity under the Credit Facility, which we maintain to support our future investment and operating activities. As of December 31, 2014, our net asset value totaled \$940.0 million, or \$20.85 per share.

The Credit Facility includes total commitments of \$572.5 million from a diversified group of fifteen lenders and matures in September 2019. The Credit Facility also contains an accordion feature which allows us to increase the total commitments under the facility up to \$650.0 million from new and existing lenders on the same terms and conditions as the existing commitments.

Borrowings under the Credit Facility bear interest, subject to our election, on a per annum basis equal to (i) the applicable LIBOR rate (0.17% as of March 31, 2015) plus 2.00%, as long as we maintain an investment grade rating (or 2.25% if we do not maintain an investment grade rating) or (ii) the applicable base rate (Prime Rate of 3.25% as of March 31, 2015) plus 1.00%, as long as we maintain an investment grade rating (or 1.25% if we do not maintain an investment grade rating). We pay unused commitment fees of 0.25% per annum on the unused lender commitments under the Credit Facility. The Credit Facility is secured by a first lien on the assets of MSCC and its subsidiaries, excluding the equity ownership or assets of the Funds and the External Investment Manager. The Credit Facility contains certain affirmative and negative covenants, including but not limited to: (i) maintaining a minimum availability of at least 10% of the borrowing base, (ii) maintaining an interest coverage ratio of at least 2.0 to 1.0, (iii) maintaining an asset coverage ratio of at least 1.5 to 1.0, and (iv) maintaining a minimum tangible net worth. The Credit Facility is provided on a revolving basis through its final maturity date in September 2019, and contains two, one-year extension options which could extend the final maturity by up to two years, subject to certain conditions, including lender approval. As of March 31, 2015, we had \$164.0 million in borrowings outstanding under the Credit Facility, the interest rate on the Credit Facility was 2.2% and we were in compliance with all financial covenants of the Credit Facility.

Table of Contents

Due to each of the Funds' status as a licensed SBIC, we have the ability to issue, through the Funds, debentures guaranteed by the SBA at favorable interest rates. Under the regulations applicable to SBIC funds, an SBIC can have outstanding debentures guaranteed by the SBA generally in an amount up to twice its regulatory capital, which effectively approximates the amount of its equity capital, up to a regulatory maximum amount of debentures of \$225.0 million. Debentures guaranteed by the SBA have fixed interest rates that equal prevailing 10-year Treasury Note rates plus a market spread and have a maturity of ten years with interest payable semi-annually. The principal amount of the debentures is not required to be paid before maturity, but may be pre-paid at any time with no prepayment penalty. On March 31, 2015, through our two wholly owned SBICs, we had \$225.0 million of outstanding SBIC debentures guaranteed by the SBA, which bear a weighted average annual fixed interest rate of approximately 4.2%, paid semi-annually, and mature ten years from issuance. The first maturity related to our SBIC debentures does not occur until 2017, and the remaining weighted average duration is approximately 6.3 years as of March 31, 2015.

In April 2013, we issued \$92.0 million, including the underwriters' full exercise of their over-allotment option, in aggregate principal amount of the 6.125% Notes. The 6.125% Notes are unsecured obligations and rank pari passu with our current and future senior unsecured indebtedness; senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly provides it is subordinated to the 6.125% Notes; effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness, to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including borrowings under our Credit Facility; and structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of any of our subsidiaries, including without limitation, the indebtedness of the Funds. The 6.125% Notes mature on April 1, 2023, and may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at our option on or after April 1, 2018. We may from time to time repurchase 6.125% Notes in accordance with the 1940 Act and the rules promulgated thereunder. As of March 31, 2015, the outstanding balance of the 6.125% Notes was \$90.8 million.

The indenture governing the 6.125% Notes (the "6.125% Notes Indenture") contains certain covenants, including covenants requiring our compliance with (regardless of whether we are subject to) the asset coverage requirements set forth in Section 18(a)(1)(A) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the 1940 Act, as well as covenants requiring us to provide financial information to the holders of the 6.125% Notes and the Trustee if we cease to be subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These covenants are subject to limitations and exceptions that are described in the 6.125% Notes Indenture.

In November 2014, we issued \$175.0 million in aggregate principal amount of the 4.50% Notes at an issue price of 99.53%. The 4.50% Notes are unsecured obligations and rank pari passu with our current and future senior unsecured indebtedness; senior to any of our future indebtedness that expressly provides it is subordinated to the 4.50% Notes; effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness, to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness, including borrowings under our Credit Facility; and structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of any of our subsidiaries, including without limitation, the indebtedness of the Funds. The 4.50% Notes mature on December 1, 2019, and may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time at our option subject to certain make whole provisions. The 4.50% Notes bear interest at a rate of 4.50% per year payable semi-annually on June 1 and December 1 of each year, beginning June 1, 2015. We may from time to time repurchase 4.50% Notes in accordance with the 1940 Act and the rules promulgated thereunder. As of March 31, 2015, the outstanding balance of the 4.50% Notes was \$175.0 million.

The indenture governing the 4.50% Notes (the "4.50% Notes Indenture") contains certain covenants, including covenants requiring our compliance with (regardless of whether we are subject to) the asset coverage requirements set forth in Section 18(a)(1)(A) as modified by Section 61(a)(1) of the 1940 Act, as well as covenants requiring us to provide financial information to the holders of the 4.50%

Table of Contents

Notes and the Trustee if we cease to be subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These covenants are subject to limitations and exceptions that are described in the 4.50% Notes Indenture.

During April 2014, we completed a follow-on public equity offering of 4,600,000 shares of common stock, including the underwriters' full exercise of their option to purchase 600,000 additional shares, at a price to the public of \$31.50 per share, resulting in total net proceeds, including exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares and after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us, of approximately \$139.7 million.

During March 2015, we completed a public equity offering of 4,370,000 shares of common stock, including the underwriters' full exercise of their option to purchase 570,000 additional shares, resulting in total net proceeds, including exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares and after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us, of approximately \$127.8 million.

We anticipate that we will continue to fund our investment activities through existing cash and cash equivalents, the liquidation of Marketable securities and idle funds investments, and a combination of future debt and equity capital. Our primary uses of funds will be investments in portfolio companies, operating expenses and cash distributions to holders of our common stock.

We periodically invest excess cash balances into Marketable securities and idle funds investments. The primary investment objective of Marketable securities and idle funds investments is to generate incremental cash returns on excess cash balances prior to utilizing those funds for investment in our LMM, Middle Market and Private Loan portfolio investments. Marketable securities and idle funds investments generally consist of debt investments, independently rated debt investments, certificates of deposit with financial institutions, diversified bond funds and publicly traded debt and equity investments. The composition of Marketable securities and idle funds investments will vary in a given period based upon, among other things, changes in market conditions, the underlying fundamentals in our Marketable securities and idle funds investments, our outlook regarding future LMM, Middle Market and Private Loan portfolio investment needs, and any regulatory requirements applicable to us.

If our common stock trades below our net asset value per share, we will generally not be able to issue additional common stock at the market price unless our stockholders approve such a sale and our Board of Directors makes certain determinations. We did not seek stockholder authorization to sell shares of our common stock below the then current net asset value per share of our common stock at our 2014 or 2015 annual meetings of stockholders because our common stock price per share had been trading significantly above the current net asset value per share of our common stock. We would therefore need future approval from our stockholders to issue shares below the then current net asset value per share.

In order to satisfy the Code requirements applicable to a RIC, we intend to distribute to our stockholders, after consideration and application of our ability under the Code to spillover certain excess undistributed taxable income from one tax year into the next tax year, substantially all of our taxable income. In addition, as a BDC, we generally are required to meet a coverage ratio of total assets to total senior securities, which include borrowings and any preferred stock we may issue in the future, of at least 200%. This requirement limits the amount that we may borrow. In January 2008, we received an exemptive order from the SEC to exclude SBA guaranteed debt securities issued by MSMF and any other wholly owned subsidiaries of ours which operate as SBICs from the asset coverage requirements of the 1940 Act as applicable to us, which, in turn, enables us to fund more investments with debt capital.

Although we have been able to secure access to additional liquidity, including recent public equity and debt offerings, our \$572.5 million Credit Facility, and the available leverage through the SBIC

Table of Contents

program, there is no assurance that debt or equity capital will be available to us in the future on favorable terms, or at all.

Recently Issued or Adopted Accounting Standards

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*. ASU 2014-9 supersedes the revenue recognition requirements under ASC Topic 605, *Revenue Recognition*, and most industry-specific guidance throughout the Industry Topics of the ASC. The core principle of the guidance is that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. Under the new guidance, an entity is required to perform the following five steps: (1) identify the contract(s) with a customer; (2) identify the performance obligations in the contract; (3) determine the transaction price; (4) allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract, and (5) recognize revenue when (or as) the entity satisfies a performance obligation. The new guidance will significantly enhance comparability of revenue recognition practices across entities, industries, jurisdictions and capital markets. Additionally, the guidance requires improved disclosures as to the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue that is recognized. The FASB tentatively decided to defer the effective date of the new revenue standard for public entities under U.S. GAAP for one year. If finalized, the new guidance will be effective for the annual reporting period beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period. Early adoption would be permitted for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. We are currently evaluating the impact the adoption of this new accounting standard will have on our financial statements.

In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-03, *Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs*, which changes the presentation of debt issuance costs in financial statements. ASU 2015-03 requires an entity to present such costs in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the related debt liability rather than as an asset. Amortization of the costs will continue to be reported as interest expense. It is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted. The new guidance will be applied retrospectively to each prior period presented. The impact of the adoption of this new accounting standard on our consolidated financial statements is currently being evaluated.

From time to time, new accounting pronouncements are issued by the FASB or other standards setting bodies that are adopted by us as of the specified effective date. We believe that the impact of recently issued standards and any that are not yet effective will not have a material impact on our financial statements upon adoption.

Inflation

Inflation has not had a significant effect on our results of operations in any of the reporting periods presented herein. However, our portfolio companies have experienced, and may in the future experience, the impacts of inflation on their operating results, including periodic escalations in their costs for labor, raw materials and third party services and required energy consumption.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We may be a party to financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk in the normal course of business to meet the financial needs of our portfolio companies. These instruments include commitments to extend credit and involve, to varying degrees, elements of liquidity and credit risk in excess of the amount recognized in the balance sheet. At March 31, 2015, we had a total of \$153.1 million in outstanding commitments comprised of (i) 30 investments with commitments to fund

Table of Contents

revolving loans that had not been fully drawn or term loans with additional commitments not yet funded and (ii) six investments with capital commitments that had not been fully called.

Contractual Obligations

As of March 31, 2015, the future fixed commitments for cash payments in connection with our SBIC debentures and the 4.50% Notes and the 6.125% Notes for each of the next five years and thereafter are as follows:

| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 and thereafter | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | | | | |
| SBIC debentures | \$ | \$ | \$ 15,000 | \$ 10,200 | \$ 20,000 | \$ 179,800 | 225,000 |
| Interest due on SBIC debentures | 4,748 | 9,448 | 9,423 | 8,130 | 7,807 | 17,601 | 57,157 |
| Notes 6.125% | | | | | | 90,810 | 90,810 |
| Interest due on 6.125% Notes | 4,171 | 5,562 | 5,562 | 5,562 | 5,562 | 19,467 | 45,886 |
| 4.50% Notes | | | | | 175,000 | | 175,000 |
| Interest due on 4.50% Notes | 8,444 | 7,875 | 7,875 | 7,875 | 7,875 | | 39,944 |
| Total | \$ 17,363 | \$ 22,885 | \$ 37,860 | \$ 31,767 | \$ 216,244 | \$ 307,678 | \$ 633,797 |

As of March 31, 2015, we had \$164.0 million in borrowings outstanding under our Credit Facility, and the Credit Facility is currently scheduled to mature in September 2019. The Credit Facility contains two, one-year extension options which could extend the maturity to September 2021. See further discussion of the Credit Facility terms in "Liquidity and Capital Resources Capital Resources".

Related Party Transactions

As discussed further above, the External Investment Manager is treated as a wholly owned portfolio company of MSCC and is included as part of our Investment Portfolio. At March 31, 2015, we had a receivable of \$1.2 million due from the External Investment Manager which included approximately \$0.8 million related to operating expenses incurred by us required to support the External Investment Manager's business, along with dividends declared but not paid by the External Investment Manager of approximately \$0.4 million.

In June 2013, we adopted a deferred compensation plan for the non-employee members of our board of directors, which allows the directors at their option to defer all or a portion of the fees paid for their services as directors and have such deferred fees paid in shares of our common stock within 90 days after the participant's end of service as a director. As of March 31, 2015, \$0.6 million of directors' fees had been deferred under this plan. These deferred fees represented 18,672 shares of our common shares. These shares will not be issued or included as outstanding on the consolidated statement of changes in net assets until each applicable participant's end of service as a director, but are included in operating expenses and weighted-average shares outstanding on our consolidated statement of operations as earned.

Table of Contents**SENIOR SECURITIES**

Information about our senior securities is shown in the following table as of December 31 for the years indicated in the table, unless otherwise noted. Grant Thornton LLP's report on the senior securities table as of December 31, 2014, is an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

| Class and Year | Total Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Treasury Securities(1) (dollars in thousands) | Asset Coverage per Unit(2) | Involuntary Liquidating Preference per Unit(3) | Average Market Value per Unit(4) |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| <i>SBIC Debentures</i> | | | | |
| 2007 | \$ 55,000 | 3,094 | | N/A |
| 2008 | 55,000 | 3,043 | | N/A |
| 2009 | 65,000 | 2,995 | | N/A |
| 2010 | 180,000 | 2,030 | | N/A |
| 2011 | 220,000 | 2,202 | | N/A |
| 2012 | 225,000 | 2,763 | | N/A |
| 2013 | 200,200 | 2,476 | | N/A |
| 2014 | 225,000 | 2,323 | | N/A |
| 2015 (as of March 31, 2015, unaudited) | 225,000 | 2,653 | | N/A |
| <i>Credit Facility</i> | | | | |
| 2010 | \$ 39,000 | 2,030 | | N/A |
| 2011 | 107,000 | 2,202 | | N/A |
| 2012 | 132,000 | 2,763 | | N/A |
| 2013 | 237,000 | 2,476 | | N/A |
| 2014 | 218,000 | 2,323 | | N/A |
| 2015 (as of March 31, 2015, unaudited) | 164,000 | 2,653 | | N/A |
| <i>6.125% Notes</i> | | | | |
| 2013 | \$ 90,882 | 2,476 | | \$ 24.35 |
| 2014 | 90,823 | 2,323 | | 24.78 |
| 2015 (as of March 31, 2015, unaudited) | 90,810 | 2,653 | | 25.29 |
| <i>4.50% Notes</i> | | | | |
| 2014 | \$ 175,000 | 2,323 | | N/A |
| 2015 (as of March 31, 2015, unaudited) | 175,000 | 2,653 | | N/A |

- (1) Total amount of each class of senior securities outstanding at the end of the period presented.
- (2) Asset coverage per unit is the ratio of the carrying value of our total consolidated assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness. Asset coverage per unit is expressed in terms of dollar amounts per \$1,000 of indebtedness.
- (3) The amount to which such class of senior security would be entitled upon the involuntary liquidation of the issuer in preference to any security junior to it. The " " indicates information which the Securities and Exchange Commission expressly does not require to be disclosed for certain types of senior securities.
- (4) Average market value per unit for our 6.125% Notes represents the average of the daily closing prices as reported on the NYSE during the period presented. Average market value per unit for our SBIC Debentures, Credit Facility and 4.50% Notes are not applicable because these are not registered for public trading.

Table of Contents

BUSINESS

We are a principal investment firm primarily focused on providing customized debt and equity financing to lower middle market ("LMM") companies and debt capital to middle market ("Middle Market") companies. Our portfolio investments are typically made to support management buyouts, recapitalizations, growth financings, refinancings and acquisitions of companies that operate in diverse industry sectors. We seek to partner with entrepreneurs, business owners and management teams and generally provide "one stop" financing alternatives within our LMM portfolio. We invest primarily in secured debt investments, equity investments, warrants and other securities of LMM companies based in the United States and in secured debt investments of Middle Market companies generally headquartered in the United States.

Our principal investment objective is to maximize our portfolio's total return by generating current income from our debt investments and capital appreciation from our equity and equity related investments, including warrants, convertible securities and other rights to acquire equity securities in a portfolio company. Our LMM companies generally have annual revenues between \$10 million and \$150 million, and our LMM portfolio investments generally range in size from \$5 million to \$50 million. Our Middle Market investments are made in businesses that are generally larger in size than our LMM portfolio companies, with annual revenues typically between \$150 million and \$1.5 billion, and our Middle Market investments generally range in size from \$3 million to \$15 million. Our private loan ("Private Loan") investments are made in businesses that are consistent with the size of companies in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. The structure, terms and conditions for these Private Loan investments are typically consistent with the structure, terms and conditions for the investments made in our LMM portfolio or Middle Market portfolio.

Our other portfolio ("Other Portfolio") investments primarily consist of investments which are not consistent with the typical profiles for our LMM, Middle Market or Private Loan portfolio investments, including investments which may be managed by third parties. In our Other Portfolio, we may incur indirect fees and expenses in connection with investments managed by third parties, such as investments in other investment companies or private funds.

Our external asset management business is conducted through our External Investment Manager. We have entered into an agreement to provide the External Investment Manager with asset management service support in connection with its asset management business generally, and specifically for its relationship with HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"). Through this agreement, we provide management and other services to the External Investment Manager, as well as access to our employees, infrastructure, business relationships, management expertise and capital raising capabilities. In the first quarter of 2014, we began charging the External Investment Manager for these services. Our total expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are net of expenses of \$0.8 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, charged to the External Investment Manager. The External Investment Manager earns management fees based on the assets of the funds under management and may earn incentive fees, or a carried interest, based on the performance of the funds managed.

We seek to fill the financing gap for LMM businesses, which, historically, have had more limited access to financing from commercial banks and other traditional sources. The underserved nature of the LMM creates the opportunity for us to meet the financing needs of LMM companies while also negotiating favorable transaction terms and equity participations. Our ability to invest across a company's capital structure, from secured loans to equity securities, allows us to offer portfolio companies a comprehensive suite of financing options, or a "one stop" financing solution. Providing customized, "one stop" financing solutions is important to LMM portfolio companies. We generally

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

seek to partner directly with entrepreneurs, management teams and business owners in making our investments. Our LMM portfolio debt investments are generally secured by a first lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between five and seven years from the original investment date. We believe that our LMM investment strategy has limited correlation to the broader debt and equity markets.

In addition to our LMM investment strategy, we pursue investments in Middle Market companies. Our Middle Market portfolio investments primarily consist of direct investments in or secondary purchases of interest bearing debt securities in privately held companies that are generally larger in size than the companies included in our LMM portfolio. Our Middle Market portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have an expected duration of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

Our Private Loan portfolio investments primarily consist of investments in interest bearing debt securities in companies that are consistent with the size of the companies included in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments that have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. Our Private Loan portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between three and seven years from the original investment date.

The following tables provide a summary of our investments in the LMM, Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 (this information excludes the Other Portfolio investments and the External Investment Manager which are discussed further below):

| | As of March 31, 2015 | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | LMM(a) | Middle Market | Private Loan |
| | (dollars in millions) | | |
| Number of portfolio companies | 68 | 89 | 37 |
| Fair value | \$ 778.3 | \$ 627.8 | \$ 247.7 |
| Cost | \$ 640.7 | \$ 642.8 | \$ 261.8 |
| % of total investments at cost debt | 70.3% | 99.1% | 96.1% |
| % of total investments at cost equity | 29.7% | 0.9% | 3.9% |
| % of debt investments at cost secured by first priority lien | 89.8% | 85.2% | 87.2% |
| Weighted-average annual effective yield(b) | 13.1% | 7.9% | 9.9% |
| Average EBITDA(c) | \$ 5.4 | \$ 95.8 | \$ 12.1 |

(a) At March 31, 2015, we had equity ownership in approximately 94% of our LMM portfolio companies and the average fully diluted equity ownership in those portfolio companies was approximately 36%.

(b) The weighted-average annual effective yields were computed using the effective interest rates for all debt investments at cost as of March 31, 2015, including amortization of deferred debt origination fees and accretion of original issue discount but excluding fees payable upon repayment of the debt instruments and any debt investments on non-accrual status.

(c) The average EBITDA is calculated using a simple average for the LMM portfolio and a weighted-average for the Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios. These calculations exclude three LMM portfolio companies, one Middle Market portfolio company and five Private Loan portfolio

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

companies as EBITDA is not a meaningful valuation metric for our investments in these portfolio companies.

| | As of December 31, 2014 | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | LMM(a) | Middle Market | Private Loan |
| | (dollars in millions) | | |
| Number of portfolio companies | 66 | 86 | 31 |
| Fair value | \$ 733.2 | \$ 542.7 | \$ 213.0 |
| Cost | \$ 599.4 | \$ 561.8 | \$ 224.0 |
| % of total investments at cost debt | 71.5% | 99.8% | 95.6% |
| % of total investments at cost equity | 28.5% | 0.2% | 4.4% |
| % of debt investments at cost secured by first priority lien | 89.6% | 85.1% | 87.8% |
| Weighted-average annual effective yield(b) | 13.2% | 7.8% | 10.1% |
| Average EBITDA(c) | \$ 5.0 | \$ 77.2 | \$ 18.1 |

- (a) At December 31, 2014, we had equity ownership in approximately 95% of our LMM portfolio companies and our average fully diluted equity ownership in those portfolio companies was approximately 35%.
- (b) The weighted-average annual effective yields were computed using the effective interest rates for all debt investments at cost as of December 31, 2014, including amortization of deferred debt origination fees and accretion of original issue discount but excluding fees payable upon repayment of the debt instruments and any debt investments on non-accrual status.
- (c) The average EBITDA is calculated using a simple average for the LMM portfolio and a weighted average for the Middle Market and Private Loan portfolios. These calculations exclude two LMM portfolio companies, one Middle Market portfolio company and five Private Loan portfolio companies as EBITDA is not a meaningful valuation metric for our investments in these portfolio companies.

As of March 31, 2015, we had Other Portfolio investments in six companies, collectively totaling approximately \$58.7 million in fair value and approximately \$55.6 million in cost basis and which comprised approximately 3.4% of our Investment Portfolio (as defined in "Critical Accounting Policies Basis of Presentation" below). As of December 31, 2014, we had Other Portfolio investments in six companies, collectively totaling approximately \$58.9 million in fair value and approximately \$56.2 million in cost basis and which comprised approximately 3.8% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value.

As previously discussed, the External Investment Manager is a wholly owned subsidiary that is treated as a portfolio investment. As of March 31, 2015, there was no cost basis in this investment and the investment had a fair value of \$24.8 million, which comprised 1.4% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value. As of December 31, 2014, there was no cost basis in this investment and the investment had a fair value of \$15.6 million, which comprised 1.0% of our Investment Portfolio at fair value.

Our portfolio investments are generally made through MSCC and the Funds. MSCC and the Funds share the same investment strategies and criteria, although they are subject to different regulatory regimes. An investor's return in MSCC will depend, in part, on the Funds' investment returns as they are wholly owned subsidiaries of MSCC.

The level of new portfolio investment activity will fluctuate from period to period based upon our view of the current economic fundamentals, our ability to identify new investment opportunities that meet our investment criteria, and our ability to consummate the identified opportunities. The level of new investment activity, and associated interest and fee income, will directly impact future investment income. In addition, the level of dividends paid by portfolio companies and the portion of our portfolio debt investments on non-accrual status will directly impact future investment income. While we intend to grow our portfolio and our investment income over the long term, our growth and our operating

Table of Contents

results may be more limited during depressed economic periods. However, we intend to appropriately manage our cost structure and liquidity position based on applicable economic conditions and our investment outlook. The level of realized gains or losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation on our investments will also fluctuate depending upon portfolio activity, economic conditions and the performance of our individual portfolio companies. The changes in realized gains and losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation could have a material impact on our operating results.

Because we are internally managed, we do not pay any external investment advisory fees, but instead incurs the operating costs associated with employing investment and portfolio management professionals itself. We believe that our internally managed structure provides us with a beneficial operating expense structure when compared to other publicly traded and privately held investment firms which are externally managed, and our internally managed structure allows us the opportunity to leverage our non-interest operating expenses as we grow our Investment Portfolio. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, the ratio of our total operating expenses, excluding interest expense, as a percentage of our quarterly average total assets was 1.4% on an annualized basis which is consistent with the ratio on an annualized basis for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and for the year ended December 31, 2014.

During May 2012, we entered into an investment sub-advisory agreement with HMS Adviser, LP ("HMS Adviser"), which is the investment advisor to HMS Income Fund, Inc. ("HMS Income"), a non-publicly traded BDC whose registration statement on Form N-2 was declared effective by the SEC in June 2012, to provide certain investment advisory services to HMS Adviser. In December 2013, after obtaining required no-action relief from the SEC to allow us to own a registered investment adviser, we assigned the sub-advisory agreement to the External Investment Manager since the fees received from such arrangement could otherwise have negative consequences on MSCC's ability to meet the source-of-income requirement necessary for us to maintain our RIC tax treatment. Under the investment sub-advisory agreement, the External Investment Manager is entitled to 50% of the base management fee and the incentive fees earned by HMS Adviser under its advisory agreement with HMS Income. Based upon several fee waiver agreements with HMS Income and HMS Adviser, the External Investment Manager did not begin accruing the base management fee and incentive fees, if any, until January 1, 2014. Beginning January 1, 2015, the External Investment Manager conditionally agreed to waive a limited amount of the base management fee and incentive fees otherwise earned during the year ended December 31, 2015. During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the External Investment Manager earned \$1.4 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, of management fees (net of fees waived, if any) under the sub-advisory agreement with HMS Adviser.

During April 2014, we received an exemptive order from the SEC permitting co-investments by us and HMS Income in certain negotiated transactions where co-investing would otherwise be prohibited under the 1940 Act. We have made, and in the future intend to continue to make, such co-investments with HMS Income in accordance with the conditions of the order. The order requires, among other things, that we and the External Investment Manager consider whether each such investment opportunity is appropriate for HMS Income and, if it is appropriate, to propose an allocation of the investment opportunity between us and HMS Income. Because the External Investment Manager may receive performance-based fee compensation from HMS Income, this may provide an incentive to allocate opportunities to HMS Income instead of us.

Business Strategies

Our principal investment objective is to maximize our portfolio's total return by generating current income from our debt investments and realizing capital appreciation from our equity and equity-related investments, including warrants, convertible securities and other rights to acquire equity securities in a

Table of Contents

portfolio company. We have adopted the following business strategies to achieve our investment objective:

Deliver Customized Financing Solutions in the Lower Middle Market. We offer LMM portfolio companies customized debt and equity financing solutions that are tailored to the facts and circumstances of each situation. We believe our ability to provide a broad range of customized financing solutions to LMM companies sets us apart from other capital providers that focus on providing a limited number of financing solutions. Our ability to invest across a company's capital structure, from senior secured loans to subordinated debt to equity securities, allows us to offer LMM portfolio companies a comprehensive suite of financing options, or a "one-stop" financing solution.

Focus on Established Companies. We generally invest in companies with established market positions, experienced management teams and proven revenue streams. We believe that those companies generally possess better risk-adjusted return profiles than newer companies that are building their management teams or are in the early stages of building a revenue base. We also believe that established companies in our targeted size range also generally provide opportunities for capital appreciation.

Leverage the Skills and Experience of Our Investment Team. Our investment team has significant experience in lending to and investing in LMM and Middle Market companies. The members of our investment team have broad investment backgrounds, with prior experience at private investment funds, investment banks and other financial services companies, and currently include five certified public accountants and five Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA) charter holders. The expertise of our investment team in analyzing, valuing, structuring, negotiating and closing transactions should provide us with competitive advantages by allowing us to consider customized financing solutions and non-traditional or complex structures for our portfolio companies. Also, the reputation of our investment team has and should continue to enable us to generate additional revenue in the form of management and incentive fees in connection with us providing advisory services to other investment funds.

Invest Across Multiple Companies, Industries, Regions and End Markets. We seek to maintain a portfolio of investments that is appropriately balanced among various companies, industries, geographic regions and end markets. This portfolio balance is intended to mitigate the potential effects of negative economic events for particular companies, regions, industries and end markets.

Capitalize on Strong Transaction Sourcing Network. Our investment team seeks to leverage its extensive network of referral sources for portfolio company investments. We have developed a reputation in our marketplace as a responsive, efficient and reliable source of financing, which has created a growing stream of proprietary deal flow for us.

Benefit from Lower, Fixed, Long-Term Cost of Capital. The SBIC licenses held by the Funds have allowed them to issue SBA-guaranteed debentures. SBA-guaranteed debentures carry long-term fixed interest rates that are generally lower than interest rates on comparable bank loans and other debt. Because lower cost SBA leverage is, and will continue to be, a significant part of our capital base through the Funds, our relative cost of debt capital should be lower than many of our competitors. In addition, the SBIC leverage that we receive through the Funds represents a stable, long-term component of our capital structure with proper matching of duration and cost compared to our LMM portfolio investments. We also maintain an investment grade rating from Standard & Poor's Ratings Services which provides us the opportunity and flexibility to obtain additional, attractive long-term financing options to supplement our capital structure.

Table of Contents

Investment Criteria

Our investment team has identified the following investment criteria that it believes are important in evaluating prospective portfolio companies. Our investment team uses these criteria in evaluating investment opportunities. However, not all of these criteria have been, or will be, met in connection with each of our investments:

Proven Management Team with Meaningful Equity Stake. We look for operationally-oriented management with direct industry experience and a successful track record. In addition, we expect the management team of each LMM portfolio company to have meaningful equity ownership in the portfolio company to better align our respective economic interests. We believe management teams with these attributes are more likely to manage the companies in a manner that both protects our debt investment and enhances the value of our equity investment.

Established Companies with Positive Cash Flow. We seek to invest in established companies with sound historical financial performance. We typically focus on LMM companies that have historically generated EBITDA of \$3 million to \$20 million and commensurate levels of free cash flow. We also pursue investments in debt securities of Middle Market companies that are generally established companies with sound historical financial performance that are generally larger in size than LMM companies. We generally do not invest in start-up companies or companies with speculative business plans.

Defensible Competitive Advantages/Favorable Industry Position. We primarily focus on companies having competitive advantages in their respective markets and/or operating in industries with barriers to entry, which may help to protect their market position and profitability.

Exit Alternatives. We exit our debt investments primarily through the repayment of our investment from internally generated cash flow of the portfolio company and/or a refinancing. In addition, we seek to invest in companies whose business models and expected future cash flows may provide alternate methods of repaying our investment, such as through a strategic acquisition by other industry participants or a recapitalization.

Investment Portfolio

The Investment Portfolio, as used herein, refers to all of our investments in LMM portfolio companies, investments in Middle Market portfolio companies, Private Loan portfolio investments, Other Portfolio investments, the investment in the External Investment Manager, but excludes all "Marketable securities and idle funds investments". Our LMM portfolio investments primarily consist of secured debt, equity warrants and direct equity investments in privately held, LMM companies based in the United States. Our Middle Market portfolio investments primarily consist of direct investments in or secondary purchases of interest-bearing debt securities in privately held companies based in the United States that are generally larger in size than the companies included in our LMM portfolio. Our Private Loan portfolio investments primarily consist of investments in interest-bearing debt securities in companies that are consistent with the size of companies in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. Our Other Portfolio investments primarily consist of investments which are not consistent with the typical profiles for our LMM, Middle Market and Private Loan portfolio investments, including investments which may be managed by third parties. In our Other Portfolio, we may incur indirect fees and expenses in connection with investments managed by third parties, such as investments in other investment companies or private funds.

Table of Contents

Debt Investments

Historically, we have made LMM debt investments principally in the form of single tranche debt. Single tranche debt financing involves issuing one debt security that blends the risk and return profiles of both first lien secured and subordinated debt. We believe that single tranche debt is more appropriate for many LMM companies given their size in order to reduce structural complexity and potential conflicts among creditors.

Our LMM debt investments generally have a term of five to seven years from the original investment date, with limited required amortization prior to maturity, and provide for monthly or quarterly payment of interest at fixed interest rates generally between 10% and 14% per annum, payable currently in cash. In some instances, we have provided floating interest rates for our single tranche debt securities. In addition, certain LMM debt investments may have a form of interest that is not paid currently but is accrued and added to the loan balance and paid at maturity. We refer to this form of interest as payment-in-kind, or PIK, interest. We typically structure our LMM debt investments with the maximum seniority and collateral that we can reasonably obtain while seeking to achieve our total return target. In most cases, our LMM debt investment will be collateralized by a first priority lien on substantially all the assets of the portfolio company. As of March 31, 2015, approximately 90% of our LMM debt investments at cost were secured by first priority liens on the assets of our LMM portfolio companies.

In addition to seeking a senior lien position in the capital structure of our LMM portfolio companies, we seek to limit the downside potential of our LMM debt investments by negotiating covenants that are designed to protect our LMM debt investments while affording our portfolio companies as much flexibility in managing their businesses as is reasonable. Such restrictions may include affirmative and negative covenants, default penalties, lien protection, change of control or change of management provisions, key-man life insurance, guarantees, equity pledges, personal guaranties, where appropriate, and put rights. In addition, we typically seek board representation or observation rights in all of our LMM portfolio companies.

While we will continue to focus our LMM debt investments primarily on single tranche debt investments, we also anticipate structuring some of our debt investments as mezzanine loans. We anticipate that these mezzanine loans will be primarily junior secured or unsecured, subordinated loans that provide for relatively high fixed interest rates payable currently in cash that will provide us with significant interest income plus the additional opportunity for income and gains through PIK interest and equity warrants and other similar equity instruments issued in conjunction with these mezzanine loans. These loans typically will have interest-only payments in the early years, with amortization of principal deferred to the later years of the mezzanine loan term. Typically, our mezzanine loans will have maturities of three to five years. We will generally target fixed interest rates of 12% to 14%, payable currently in cash for our mezzanine loan investments with higher targeted total returns from equity warrants or PIK interest.

We also pursue debt investments in Middle Market companies. Our Middle Market portfolio investments primarily consist of direct investments or secondary purchases of interest-bearing debt securities in privately held companies based in the United States that are generally larger in size than the companies included in our LMM portfolio. Our Middle Market portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien on the assets of the portfolio company and typically have a term of between three and seven years from the original investment date. The debt investments in our Middle Market portfolio have rights and protections that are similar to those in our LMM debt investments, which may include affirmative and negative covenants, default penalties, lien protection, change of control provisions, guarantees and equity pledges. The Middle Market debt investments generally have floating interest rates at LIBOR plus a margin, and are typically subject to LIBOR floors. As of March 31, 2015, substantially all of our Middle Market portfolio investments were in the form of debt investments, with approximately 85% of such debt investments at cost secured by first priority liens.

Table of Contents

Our Private Loan portfolio investments primarily consist of investments in interest-bearing debt securities in companies that are consistent with the size of companies in our LMM portfolio or our Middle Market portfolio, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. Our Private Loan portfolio debt investments are generally secured by either a first or second priority lien and typically have a term of between three and seven years from the original investment date. As of March 31, 2015, approximately 96% of our Private Loan portfolio investments were in the form of debt investments and approximately 87% of such debt investments at cost were secured by first priority liens on portfolio company assets.

Warrants

In connection with a portion of our LMM debt investments, we have historically received equity warrants to establish or increase our equity interest in the LMM portfolio company. Warrants we receive in connection with a LMM debt investment typically require only a nominal cost to exercise, and thus, as a LMM portfolio company appreciates in value, we may achieve additional investment return from this equity interest. We typically structure the warrants to provide provisions protecting our rights as a minority-interest holder, as well as secured or unsecured put rights, or rights to sell such securities back to the LMM portfolio company, upon the occurrence of specified events. In certain cases, we also may obtain registration rights in connection with these equity interests, which may include demand and "piggyback" registration rights.

Direct Equity Investments

We also will seek to make direct equity investments in situations where it is appropriate to align our interests with key management and stockholders of our LMM portfolio companies, and to allow for participation in the appreciation in the equity values of our LMM portfolio companies. We usually make our direct equity investments in connection with debt investments. In addition, we may have both equity warrants and direct equity positions in some of our LMM portfolio companies. We seek to maintain fully diluted equity positions in our LMM portfolio companies of 5% to 50%, and may have controlling equity interests in some instances. We have a value orientation toward our direct equity investments and have traditionally been able to purchase our equity investments at reasonable valuations.

Investment Process

Our investment committee is responsible for all aspects of our LMM investment process. The current members of our investment committee are Vincent D. Foster, our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Dwayne L. Hyzak, our Chief Operating Officer and Senior Managing Director, Curtis L. Hartman, our Chief Credit Officer and Senior Managing Director, and David Magdol, our Chief Investment Officer and Senior Managing Director.

Our credit committee is responsible for all aspects of our Middle Market portfolio investment process. The current members of our credit committee are Messrs. Foster, Hartman and Rodger A. Stout, our Executive Vice President.

Investment process responsibility for each Private Loan portfolio investment is delegated to either the investment committee or the credit committee based upon the nature of the investment and the manner in which it was originated. Similarly, the investment processes for each Private Loan portfolio investment, from origination to close and to eventual exit, will follow the processes for our LMM portfolio investments or our Middle Market portfolio investments as outlined below, or a combination thereof.

Our investment strategy involves a "team" approach, whereby potential transactions are screened by several members of our investment team before being presented to the investment committee or the

Table of Contents

credit committee, as applicable. Our investment committee and credit committee each meet on an as needed basis depending on transaction volume. We generally categorize our investment process into seven distinct stages:

Deal Generation/Origination

Deal generation and origination is maximized through long-standing and extensive relationships with industry contacts, brokers, commercial and investment bankers, entrepreneurs, service providers such as lawyers, financial advisors, accountants and current and former portfolio companies and investors. Our investment team has focused its deal generation and origination efforts on LMM and Middle Market companies, and we have developed a reputation as a knowledgeable, reliable and active source of capital and assistance in these markets.

Screening

During the screening process, if a transaction initially meets our investment criteria, we will perform preliminary due diligence, taking into consideration some or all of the following information:

a comprehensive financial model based on quantitative analysis of historical financial performance, projections and pro forma adjustments to determine the estimated internal rate of return;

a brief industry and market analysis;

direct industry expertise imported from other portfolio companies or investors;

preliminary qualitative analysis of the management team's competencies and backgrounds;

potential investment structures and pricing terms; and

regulatory compliance.

Upon successful screening of a proposed LMM transaction, the investment team makes a recommendation to our investment committee. If our investment committee concurs with moving forward on the proposed LMM transaction, we typically issue a non-binding term sheet to the company. For Middle Market portfolio investments, the initial term sheet is typically issued by the borrower, through the syndicating bank, and is screened by the investment team which makes a recommendation to our credit committee.

Term Sheet

For proposed LMM transactions, the non-binding term sheet will include the key economic terms based upon our analysis performed during the screening process as well as a proposed timeline and our qualitative expectation for the transaction. While the term sheet for LMM investments is non-binding, we typically receive an expense deposit in order to move the transaction to the due diligence phase. Upon execution of a term sheet, we begin our formal due diligence process.

For proposed Middle Market transactions, the initial term sheet will include key economic terms and other conditions proposed by the borrower and its representatives and the proposed timeline for the investment, which are reviewed by our investment team to determine if such terms and conditions are in agreement with our investment objectives.

Due Diligence

Due diligence on a proposed LMM investment is performed by a minimum of two of our investment professionals, whom we refer to collectively as the investment team, and certain external resources, who together conduct due diligence to understand the relationships among the prospective

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

portfolio company's business plan, operations and financial performance. Our LMM due diligence review includes some or all of the following:

- site visits with management and key personnel;
- detailed review of historical and projected financial statements;
- operational reviews and analysis;
- interviews with customers and suppliers;
- detailed evaluation of company management, including background checks;
- review of material contracts;
- in-depth industry, market and strategy analysis;
- regulatory compliance analysis; and
- review by legal, environmental or other consultants, if applicable.

Due diligence on a proposed Middle Market investment is generally performed on materials and information obtained from certain external resources and assessed internally by a minimum of two of our investment professionals, who work to understand the relationships among the prospective portfolio company's business plan, operations and financial performance using the accumulated due diligence information. Our Middle Market due diligence review includes some or all of the following:

- detailed review of historical and projected financial statements;
- in-depth industry, market, operational and strategy analysis;
- regulatory compliance analysis; and
- detailed review of the company's management team and their capabilities.

During the due diligence process, significant attention is given to sensitivity analyses and how the company might be expected to perform given downside, base-case and upside scenarios. In certain cases, we may decide not to make an investment based on the results of the diligence process.

Document and Close

Upon completion of a satisfactory due diligence review of a proposed LMM portfolio investment, the investment team presents the findings and a recommendation to our investment committee. The presentation contains information which can include, but is not limited to, the following:

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

company history and overview;

transaction overview, history and rationale, including an analysis of transaction strengths and risks;

analysis of key customers and suppliers and key contracts;

a working capital analysis;

an analysis of the company's business strategy;

a management and key equity investor background check and assessment;

third-party accounting, legal, environmental or other due diligence findings;

investment structure and expected returns;

anticipated sources of repayment and potential exit strategies;

Table of Contents

pro forma capitalization and ownership;

an analysis of historical financial results and key financial ratios;

sensitivities to management's financial projections;

regulatory compliance analysis findings; and

detailed reconciliations of historical to pro forma results.

Upon completion of a satisfactory due diligence review of a proposed Middle Market portfolio investment, the investment team presents the findings and a recommendation to our credit committee. The presentation contains information which can include, but is not limited to, the following:

company history and overview;

transaction overview, history and rationale, including an analysis of transaction strengths and risks;

analysis of key customers and suppliers;

an analysis of the company's business strategy;

investment structure and expected returns;

anticipated sources of repayment and potential exit strategies;

pro forma capitalization and ownership;

regulatory compliance analysis findings; and

an analysis of historical financial results and key financial ratios.

If any adjustments to the transaction terms or structures are proposed by the investment committee or credit committee, as applicable, such changes are made and applicable analyses are updated prior to approval of the transaction. Approval for the transaction must be made by the affirmative vote from a majority of the members of the investment committee or credit committee, as applicable, with the committee member managing the transaction, if any, abstaining from the vote. Upon receipt of transaction approval, we will re-confirm regulatory compliance, process and finalize all required legal documents, and fund the investment.

Post-Investment

We continuously monitor the status and progress of the portfolio companies. We generally offer managerial assistance to our portfolio companies, giving them access to our investment experience, direct industry expertise and contacts. The same investment team that was involved

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

in the investment process will continue its involvement in the portfolio company post-investment. This provides for continuity of knowledge and allows the investment team to maintain a strong business relationship with key management of our portfolio companies for post-investment assistance and monitoring purposes. As part of the monitoring process of LMM portfolio investments, the investment team will analyze monthly and quarterly financial statements versus the previous periods and year, review financial projections, meet and discuss issues or opportunities with management, attend board meetings and review all compliance certificates and covenants. While we maintain limited involvement in the ordinary course operations of our LMM portfolio companies, we maintain a higher level of involvement in non-ordinary course financing or strategic activities and any non-performing scenarios. We also monitor the performance of our Middle Market portfolio investments; however, due to the larger size and higher sophistication level of these Middle Market companies in comparison to our LMM portfolio companies, it is not necessary or practical to have as much direct management interface.

Edgar Filing: Main Street Capital CORP - Form N-2/A

Table of Contents

We utilize an internally developed investment rating system to rate the performance of each LMM portfolio company and to monitor our expected level of returns on each of our LMM investments in relation to our expectations for the portfolio company. The investment rating system takes into consideration various factors, including, but not limited to, each investment's expected level of returns and the collectability of our debt investments, comparisons to competitors and other industry participants and the portfolio company's future outlook.

Investment Rating 1 represents a LMM portfolio company that is performing in a manner which significantly exceeds expectations;

Investment Rating 2 represents a LMM portfolio company that, in general, is performing above expectations;

Investment Rating 3 represents a LMM portfolio company that is generally performing in accordance with expectations;

Investment Rating 4 represents a LMM portfolio company that is underperforming expectations. Investments with such a rating require increased monitoring and scrutiny by us; and

Investment Rating 5 represents a LMM portfolio company that is significantly underperforming. Investments with such a rating require heightened levels of monitoring and scrutiny by us and involve the recognition of significant unrealized depreciation on such investment.

All new LMM portfolio investments receive an initial 3 rating.

The following table shows the distribution of our LMM portfolio investments on the 1 to 5 investment rating scale at fair value as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

| Investment Rating | As of March 31, 2015 | | As of December 31, 2014 | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Investments at Fair Value | Percentage of Total Portfolio | Investments at Fair Value | Percentage of Total Portfolio |
| | (in thousands, except percentages) | | | |
| 1 | \$ 282,487 | 36.2% | \$ 287,693 | 39.2% |
| 2 | 168,539 | 21.7% | 133,266 | 18.2% |
| 3 | 232,851 | 29.9% | 239,100 | 32.6% |
| 4 | 83,116 | 10.7% | 61,475 | 8.4% |
| 5 | 11,307 | 1.5% | 11,657 | 1.6% |
| Total | \$ 778,300 | 100.0% | \$ 733,191 | 100.0% |

Based upon our investment rating system, the weighted-average rating of our LMM portfolio was approximately 2.2 as of both March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

As of March 31, 2015, our total Investment Portfolio had five investments with positive fair value on non-accrual status, which comprised approximately 1.2% of its fair value and 3.9% of its cost, and no fully impaired investments. As of December 31, 2014, our total Investment Portfolio had five investments with positive fair value on non-accrual status, which comprised approximately 1.7% of its fair value and 4.7% of its cost, and no fully impaired investments.

Exit Strategies/Refinancing

While we generally exit most investments through the refinancing or repayment of our debt and redemption of our equity positions, we typically assist our LMM portfolio companies in developing and planning exit opportunities, including any sale or merger of our portfolio companies. We may also assist in the structure, timing, execution and transition of the exit strategy. The refinancing or repayment of Middle

Market debt investments typically does not require our assistance due to the additional resources available to these larger, Middle Market companies.

Table of Contents

Determination of Net Asset Value and Investment Portfolio Valuation Process

The most significant determination inherent in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements is the valuation of our Investment Portfolio and the related amounts of unrealized appreciation and depreciation. As of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, our Investment Portfolio valued at fair value represented approximately 95% and 92% of our total assets, respectively. We are required to report our investments at fair value. We follow the provisions of FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* ("ASC 820"). ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, establishes a fair value hierarchy based on the quality of inputs used to measure fair value, and enhances disclosure requirements for fair value measurements. ASC 820 requires us to assume that the portfolio investment is to be sold in the principal market to independent market participants, which may be a hypothetical market. Market participants are defined as buyers and sellers in the principal market that are independent, knowledgeable and willing and able to transact.

Our portfolio strategy calls for us to invest primarily in illiquid debt and equity securities issued by private, LMM companies and more liquid debt securities issued by Middle Market companies that are generally larger in size than the LMM companies. We categorize some of our investments in LMM companies and Middle Market companies as Private Loan portfolio investments, which are primarily debt securities issued by companies that are consistent in size with either the LMM companies or Middle Market companies, but are investments which have been originated through strategic relationships with other investment funds on a collaborative basis. The structure, terms and conditions for these Private Loan investments are typically consistent with the structure, terms and conditions for the investments made in our LMM portfolio or Middle Market portfolio. Our portfolio also includes Other Portfolio investments which primarily consist of investments that are not consistent with the typical profiles for our LMM portfolio investments, Middle Market portfolio investments or Private Loan portfolio investments, including investments which may be managed by third parties. Our portfolio investments may be subject to restrictions on resale.

LMM investments and Other Portfolio investments generally have no established trading market while Middle Market securities generally have established markets that are not active. Private Loan investments may include investments which have no established trading market or have established markets that are not active. We determine in good faith the fair value of our Investment Portfolio pursuant to a valuation policy in accordance with ASC 820 and a valuation process approved by our Board of Directors and in accordance with the 1940 Act. Our valuation policies and processes are intended to provide a consistent basis for determining the fair value of our Investment Portfolio.

For LMM portfolio investments, we generally review external events, including private mergers, sales and acquisitions involving comparable companies, and include these events in the valuation process by using an enterprise value waterfall methodology ("Waterfall") for our LMM equity investments and an income approach using a yield-to-maturity model ("Yield-to-Maturity") for our LMM debt investments. For Middle Market portfolio investments, we primarily use quoted prices in the valuation process. We determine the appropriateness of the use of third-party broker quotes, if any, in determining fair value based on our understanding of the level of actual transactions used by the broker to develop the quote and whether the quote was an indicative price or binding offer, the depth and consistency of broker quotes and the correlation of changes in broker quotes with underlying performance of the portfolio company and other market indices. For Middle Market and Private Loan portfolio investments in debt securities for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value the investment in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method. For our Other Portfolio equity investments, we generally calculate the fair value of the investment primarily based on the net asset value ("NAV") of the fund. All of the valuation approaches for our portfolio investments estimate the value of the investment as if we were to sell, or exit, the investment as of the measurement date.

Table of Contents

These valuation approaches consider the value associated with our ability to control the capital structure of the portfolio company, as well as the timing of a potential exit. For valuation purposes, "control" portfolio investments are composed of debt and equity securities in companies for which we have a controlling interest in the equity ownership of the portfolio company or the ability to nominate a majority of the portfolio company's board of directors. For valuation purposes, "non-control" portfolio investments are generally composed of debt and equity securities in companies for which we do not have a controlling interest in the equity ownership of the portfolio company or the ability to nominate a majority of the portfolio company's board of directors.

Under the Waterfall valuation method, we estimate the enterprise value of a portfolio company using a combination of market and income approaches or other appropriate valuation methods, such as considering recent transactions in the equity securities of the portfolio company or third-party valuations of the portfolio company, and then perform a waterfall calculation by using the enterprise value over the portfolio company's securities in order of their preference relative to one another. The enterprise value is the fair value at which an enterprise could be sold in a transaction between two willing parties, other than through a forced or liquidation sale. Typically, private companies are bought and sold based on multiples of EBITDA, cash flows, net income, revenues, or in limited cases, book value. There is no single methodology for estimating enterprise value. For any one portfolio company, enterprise value is generally described as a range of values from which a single estimate of enterprise value is derived. In estimating the enterprise value of a portfolio company, we analyze various factors including the portfolio company's historical and projected financial results. The operating results of a portfolio company may include unaudited, projected, budgeted or pro forma financial information and may require adjustments for non-recurring items or to normalize the operating results that may require significant judgment in our determination. In addition, projecting future financial results requires significant judgment regarding future growth assumptions. In evaluating the operating results, we also analyze the impact of exposure to litigation, loss of customers or other contingencies. After determining the appropriate enterprise value, we allocate the enterprise value to investments in order of the legal priority of the various components of the portfolio company's capital structure. In applying the Waterfall valuation method, we assume the loans are paid off at the principal amount in a change in control transaction and are not assumed by the buyer, which we believe is consistent with our past transaction history and standard industry practices.

Under the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method, we use the income approach to determine the fair value of debt securities, based on projections of the discounted future free cash flows that the debt security will likely generate, including analyzing the discounted cash flows of interest and principal amounts for the debt security, as set forth in the associated loan agreements, as well as the financial position and credit risk of each of these portfolio investments. Our estimate of the expected repayment date of our debt securities is generally the legal maturity date of the instrument, as we generally intend to hold our loans and debt securities to maturity. The Yield-to-Maturity analysis considers changes in leverage levels, credit quality, portfolio company performance and other factors. We will use the value determined by the Yield-to-Maturity analysis as the fair value for that security; however, because of our general intent to hold our loans to maturity, the fair value will not exceed the principal amount of the debt security valued using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method. A change in the assumptions that we use to estimate the fair value of our debt securities using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method could have a material impact on the determination of fair value. If there is deterioration in credit quality or if a debt security is in workout status, we may consider other factors in determining the fair value of the debt security, including the value attributable to the debt security from the enterprise value of the portfolio company or the proceeds that would most likely be received in a liquidation analysis.

Under the NAV valuation method, for an investment in an investment fund that does not have a readily determinable fair value, we measure the fair value of the investment predominately based on the NAV of the investment fund as of the measurement date. However, in determining the fair value of

Table of Contents

the investment, we may consider whether adjustments to the NAV are necessary in certain circumstances, based on the analysis of any restrictions on redemption of our investment as of the measurement date, recent actual sales or redemptions of interests in the investment fund, and expected future cash flows available to equity holders, including the rate of return on those cash flows compared to an implied market return on equity required by market participants, or other uncertainties surrounding our ability to realize the full NAV of our interests in the investment fund.

Pursuant to our internal valuation process and the requirements under the 1940 Act, we perform valuation procedures on our portfolio investments quarterly. In addition to our internal valuation process, in determining the estimates of fair value for our investments in LMM portfolio companies, we, among other things, consult with a nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm. The nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm analyzes and provides observations and recommendations regarding the Company's determinations of the fair value of its LLM portfolio company investments. The nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm is generally consulted relative to our investments in each LMM portfolio company at least once in every calendar year, and for our investments in new LMM portfolio companies, at least once in the twelve-month period subsequent to the initial investment. In certain instances, we may determine that it is not cost-effective, and as a result is not in our stockholders' best interest, to consult with the nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm on our investments in one or more LMM portfolio companies. Such instances include, but are not limited to, situations where the fair value of our investment in a LMM portfolio company is determined to be insignificant relative to the total Investment Portfolio. We consulted with our independent financial advisory services firm in arriving at our determination of fair value on our investments in a total of 15 LMM portfolio companies for the three months ended March 31, 2015, representing approximately 23% of the total LMM portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2015, and on a total of 17 LMM portfolio companies for the three months ended March 31, 2014, representing approximately 29% of the total LMM portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2014. Excluding our investments in new LMM portfolio companies which have not been in the Investment Portfolio for at least twelve months subsequent to the initial investment as of March 31, 2015 and 2014, as applicable, and our investments in the LMM portfolio companies that were not reviewed because their equity is publicly traded, the percentage of the LMM portfolio reviewed by our independent financial advisory services firm for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was 27% and 32% of the total LMM portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

For valuation purposes, all of our Middle Market portfolio investments are non-control investments. To the extent sufficient observable inputs are available to determine fair value, we use observable inputs to determine the fair value of these investments through obtaining third-party quotes or other independent pricing. For Middle Market portfolio investments for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value such Middle Market debt investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method and such Middle Market equity investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Waterfall valuation method. The Company does not generally consult with any financial advisory services firms in connection with determining the fair value of its Middle Market debt investments.

For valuation purposes, all of our Private Loan portfolio investments are non-control investments. For Private Loan portfolio investments for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value such Private Loan debt investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method and such Private Loan equity investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Waterfall valuation method.

Table of Contents

For valuation purposes, all of our Other Portfolio investments are non-control investments. Our Other Portfolio investments comprised approximately 3.4% and 3.8%, respectively, of our Investment Portfolio at fair value as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014. Similar to the LMM investment portfolio, market quotations for Other Portfolio equity investments are generally not readily available. For our Other Portfolio equity investments, we generally determine the fair value of our investments using the NAV valuation method. For Other Portfolio debt investments, we generally determine the fair value of these investments through obtaining third-party quotes or other independent pricing to the extent that these inputs are available and appropriate to determine fair value. For Other Portfolio debt investments for which we have determined that third-party quotes or other independent pricing are not available or appropriate, we generally estimate the fair value based on the assumptions that we believe hypothetical market participants would use to value such Other Portfolio debt investments in a current hypothetical sale using the Yield-to-Maturity valuation method.

For valuation purposes, our investment in the External Investment Manager is a control investment. Market quotations are not readily available for this investment, and as a result, we determine the fair value of the External Investment Manager using the Waterfall valuation method under the market approach. In estimating the enterprise value, we analyze various factors, including the entity's historical and projected financial results, as well as its size, marketability and performance relative to the population of market multiples. This valuation approach estimates the value of the investment as if we were to sell, or exit, the investment. In addition, we consider the value associated with our ability to control the capital structure of the company, as well as the timing of a potential exit.

Due to the inherent uncertainty in the valuation process, our determination of fair value for our Investment Portfolio may differ materially from the values that would have been determined had a ready market for the securities existed. In addition, changes in the market environment, portfolio company performance and other events that may occur over the lives of the investments may cause the gains or losses ultimately realized on these investments to be materially different than the valuations currently assigned. We determine the fair value of each individual investment and record changes in fair value as unrealized appreciation or depreciation.

Our Board of Directors has the final responsibility for overseeing, reviewing and approving, in good faith, our determination of the fair value for our Investment Portfolio and our valuation procedures, consistent with 1940 Act requirements. We believe our Investment Portfolio as of March 31, 2015 and 2014 approximates fair value as of those dates based on the markets in which we operate and other conditions in existence on those reporting dates.

As described below, we undertake a multi-step valuation process each quarter in connection with determining the fair value of our investments, with our Board of Directors having final responsibility for overseeing, reviewing and approving, in good faith, our determination of the fair value for our Investment Portfolio and our valuation methodologies and procedures, consistent with 1940 Act requirements. In addition, the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors periodically evaluates the performance and methodologies of the financial advisory services firm that we consult in connection with valuing our LLM portfolio company investments.

Our quarterly valuation process begins with each LMM and Private Loan portfolio company investment being initially valued by the investment team responsible for monitoring the portfolio investment;

The fair value determination for our Middle Market and Other Portfolio debt and equity investments and our investment in the External Investment Manager consists of unobservable and observable inputs which are initially reviewed by the investment professionals responsible for monitoring the portfolio investment;

Table of Contents

Preliminary valuation conclusions are then reviewed by and discussed with senior management, and the investment team considers and assesses, as appropriate, any changes that may be required to the preliminary valuations to address any comments provided by senior management;

As described above, a nationally recognized independent financial advisory services firm performs certain mutually agreed upon limited procedures on a selection of management's LMM portfolio company valuation conclusions;

The Audit Committee of our Board of Directors reviews management's valuations, and the investment team and senior management consider and assess, as appropriate, any changes that may be required to management's valuations to address any comments provided by the Audit Committee; and

The Board of Directors assesses the valuations and ultimately approves the fair value of each investment in our portfolio in good faith.

Determination of fair value involves subjective judgments and estimates. The notes to our financial statements refer to the uncertainty with respect to the possible effect of such valuations, and any change in such valuations, on our financial results and financial condition.

Competition

We compete for investments with a number of investment funds (including private equity funds, mezzanine funds, BDCs, and SBICs), as well as traditional financial services companies such as commercial banks and other sources of financing. Many of the entities that compete with us are larger and have more resources available to them. We believe we are able to be competitive with these entities primarily on the basis of our focus toward the underserved LMM, the experience and contacts of our management team, our responsive and efficient investment analysis and decision-making processes, our comprehensive suite of customized financing solutions and the investment terms we offer.

We believe that some of our competitors make senior secured loans, junior secured loans and subordinated debt investments with interest rates and returns that are comparable to or lower than the rates and returns that we target. Therefore, we do not seek to compete primarily on the interest rates and returns that we offer to potential portfolio companies. For additional information concerning the competitive risks we face, see "Risk Factors Risks Related to Our Business and Structure We may face increasing competition for investment opportunities".

Employees

As of March 31, 2015, we had 38 employees. These employees include investment and portfolio management professionals, operations professionals and administrative staff. As necessary, we will hire additional investment professionals and administrative personnel. All of our employees are located in our Houston, Texas office.

Properties

We do not own any real estate or other physical properties materially important to our operations. Currently, we lease office space in Houston, Texas for our corporate headquarters.

Legal Proceedings

We may, from time to time, be involved in litigation arising out of our operations in the normal course of business or otherwise. Furthermore, third parties may seek to impose liability on us in connection with the activities of our portfolio companies. While the outcome of any current legal

Table of Contents

proceedings cannot at this time be predicted with certainty, we do not expect any current matters will materially affect our financial condition or results of operations; however, there can be no assurance whether any pending legal proceedings will have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations in any future reporting period.

Table of Contents**PORTFOLIO COMPANIES**

The following table sets forth certain unaudited information as of March 31, 2015, for the portfolio companies in which we had a debt or equity investment. Other than these investments, our only formal relationships with our portfolio companies are the managerial assistance ancillary to our investments and the board observer or participation rights we may receive. As of March 31, 2015, none of our portfolio company investments constituted five percent or more of our total assets. The following table excludes our investments in marketable securities and idle funds investments.

| Portfolio Company(1) | Business Description | Type of Investment(2)(3) | Principal(4) | Cost(4) | Fair Value |
|---|--|--|--------------|----------|------------|
| (dollars in thousands) | | | | | |
| Control Investments(5) | | | | | |
| ASC Interests, LLC 16500 Westheimer Parkway Houston, TX 77082 | Recreational and Educational Shooting Facility | 11% Secured Debt (Maturity July 31, 2018) | \$ 2,925 | \$ 2,882 | |