

Professional Diversity Network, Inc.

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Submission Information

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| Shell Company?              | False                 |

Documents

|         |                                                                        |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10-K    | FORM 10-K                                                              |
| EX-21   | Exhibit 21                                                             |
| EX-23.1 | Exhibit 23.1                                                           |
| EX-31.1 | Exhibit 31.1                                                           |
| EX-31.2 | Exhibit 31.2                                                           |
| EX-32.1 | Exhibit 32.1                                                           |
| EX-32.2 | Exhibit 32.2                                                           |
| EX-97   | Exhibit 97 POLICY FOR THE RECOVERY OF ERRONEOUSLY AWARDED COMPENSATION |
| GRAPHIC | s01.jpg                                                                |
| GRAPHIC | a02.jpg                                                                |
| GRAPHIC | a03.jpg                                                                |

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-K

(Mark One)

☒ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024

or

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number: 001-35824

Professional Diversity Network, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

80-0900177

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

55 E. Monroe Street, Suite 2120 Chicago, Illinois

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

60603

(Zip Code)

(312) 614-0950

(Registrant’s telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| Title of each class                      | Name of each exchange on which registered |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share | The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC               |

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.  
Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.  
Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.  
Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to submit such files).  
Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company,” and “emerging growth company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.:

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☒

Smaller reporting company ☒

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the Registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management’s assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes ☐ No ☒

If securities are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act, indicate by check mark whether the financial statements of the registrant included in the filing reflect the correction of an error to previously issued financial statements. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether any of those error corrections are restatements that required a recovery analysis of incentive-based compensation received by any of the registrant’s executive officers during the relevant recovery period pursuant to §240.10D-1(b). ☐

The aggregate market value of the Registrant’s common stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant on June 30, 2024, the last business day of the Registrant’s most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was approximately \$5,867,917 (based on the price at which the common shares were last sold as reported on the NASDAQ Capital Market on such date).

There were 2,083,327 shares outstanding of the Registrant’s common stock as of March 31, 2025.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Registrant’s Proxy Statement for the Registrant’s 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K.

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**PROFESSIONAL DIVERSITY NETWORK, INC.**

**FORM 10-K  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024  
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**PROFESSIONAL DIVERSITY NETWORK, INC.**

**PART I**

Unless we specify otherwise, all references in this annual report on Form 10-K (the “Annual Report”) to “PDN,” “the Company,” “we,” “our,” and “us” refer to Professional Diversity Network, Inc., and its consolidated subsidiaries. This discussion contains forward-looking statements, which are based on our assumptions about the future of our business. *Our actual results will likely differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements. Please read “Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements” for additional information regarding forward-looking statements used in this Annual Report.*

Effective January 5, 2023, we filed a certificate of amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation in order to implement a 2-for-1 reverse stock split, through which each two shares of common stock issued and outstanding were combined and changed into one share of common stock. All share amounts and share prices in this annual report on Form 10-K have been adjusted to give effect to the reverse stock split.

Effective March 13, 2025, we filed a certificate of amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation in order to implement a 10-for-1 reverse stock split, through which each ten shares of common stock issued and outstanding were combined and changed into one share of common stock. All share amounts and share prices in this annual report on Form 10-K have been adjusted to give effect to the reverse stock split.

**ITEM 1 - BUSINESS**

**Overview**

The Company is a dynamic operator of professional networks with a focus on talent acquisition and professional development. Our networks provide access to a robust audience across multiple demographics. We serve a variety of such communities, including Women, Hispanic Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, persons with disabilities, Military Professionals, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+). Our goal is (i) to assist our registered users and members in their efforts to connect with like-minded individuals and identify career opportunities within the network and (ii) connect members with prospective employers while helping the employers address their workforce needs. We believe that the combination of our solutions allows us to approach recruiting and professional networking uniquely and thus create enhanced value for our members and clients.

PDN is a holding company and operates three business units:

- TalentAlly, LLC is 100% owned and operated by PDN;
- NAPW, Inc. is 100% owned and operated by PDN; and
- RemoteMore USA, Inc. is 73% owned by PDN.

**Environmental, Social and Governance**

As a global developer and operator of online and in-person networks that provide access to networking, training, educational, and employment opportunities for diverse individuals, Professional Diversity Network, Inc. is striving to be at the forefront of fostering supportive and inclusive cultures in the workplace. We are committed to creating permanent, systemic changes that address social inequalities in our communities by providing avenues for employers and under-represented people to engage.

We are proud of our continued leadership in social stewardship. Our mission is to utilize the collective strength of our subsidiaries, members, partners, and unique proprietary platform to create opportunities for women, minorities, veterans, LGBTQ+ and persons with disabilities. This includes employment, networking, and professional development.

Through an online employee recruitment platform that leverages our affinity groups, we provide our employer clients with a means to identify and attract qualified talent, assist them with diversifying their talent pool, and comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity Office of Federal Contract Compliance Program.

We believe in maintaining a supportive and inclusive culture that values everyone’s talents, life experiences and backgrounds.

- We are proud of the strength and diversity within our Board of Directors, comprised of 20% female directors and 80% of directors who are non-white as of December 31, 2024;
- Two-third of our Audit Committee members are non-white males; and
- Our Senior Management team is comprised of 25% female members and 50% non-white males.

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The following table depicts a breakdown of the ethnicity of our full-time and part-time employees as of December 31, 2024:

| Ethnicity                                          | Female | Male | Total |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------|------|-------|
| Asian (not Hispanic or Latino)                     | 3      | 3    | 6     |
| Black or African American (not Hispanic or Latino) | 2      | 1    | 3     |
| Hispanic or Latino                                 | 3      | 3    | 6     |
| White (not Hispanic or Latino)                     | 17     | 11   | 28    |
| Total                                              | 25     | 18   | 43    |

## Our Strategy

We provide services for employers who want to attract diverse talent, individuals seeking to network on a professional level and job seekers who desire to improve their professional situation.

Our recruitment business provides additional value for our other business segments by providing our registered users and members access to employment opportunities at leading companies. We have focused our efforts on placing talent in IT, Finance, and similarly related fields.

Our strategy encompasses the following key elements:

- Grow and diversify our member and client base;
- Improve branding and brand awareness;
- Utilize social media to effectively engage with the community;
- Maximize revenue through synergies among the segments;
- Launch new products and services;
- Streamline infrastructure to capture efficiency; and
- Continue to expand in diversity recruitment by growing our core offerings of recruitment advertising, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) compliance offerings and our placement services.

We remain interested in pursuing acquisition and/or development opportunities that would increase returns of capital to our shareholders, such as our purchase of Expo Experts LLC and the purchase of an additional equity stake in RemoteMore USA, Inc. The timing, size, success and associated potential future capital commitments related to such opportunities are unknown at this time. Accordingly, a material acceleration of our growth strategy could require us to obtain additional capital through debt and/or equity financings. There can be no assurance that adequate debt and equity financing will be available on satisfactory terms.

## Industry Overview

The diversity recruitment market is highly fragmented and is characterized by the following trends:

- *Regulatory Landscape on Diversity and Inclusion: Key Shifts and Legal Impacts.* The regulatory environment surrounding diversity and inclusion in the workplace has evolved significantly through key government actions. In August 2011, President Obama signed Executive Order 13583 to promote diversity and inclusion within the federal workforce, requiring companies seeking federal contracts to demonstrate workforce diversity. Simultaneously, the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 mandated that U.S. financial agencies create Offices of Minority and Women Inclusion (OMWI) to oversee diversity in management, employment, and contracting activities. However, under President Trump, an executive order was issued to terminate certain DEI programs, including those related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, within federal agencies and contracting. Despite this, the Dodd-Frank Act’s requirement for OMWIs remained unaffected, as Trump's order included a provision preserving the authority granted by law to agencies, thus ensuring that OMWIs continued to operate in financial sectors. Notably, while the SEC removed its DEI page in January 2024, its OMWI page remains intact, highlighting that the legal obligations for diversity in federal financial agencies remain in place despite broader political shifts.

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- Growing Ethnic Diversity of the U.S. Population and Labor Force.** The demographic landscape of the United States continues to evolve, with significant shifts in the racial and ethnic composition of both the general population and the labor force. These changes underscore the importance of inclusive recruitment practices to effectively engage a diverse talent pool. As of January 1, 2025, the U.S. population reached approximately 341.1 million, reflecting a 0.78% increase from the previous year. The U.S. Census Bureau projects that by 2060, the Hispanic population will constitute about 30.6% of the total U.S. population, up from 19.1% in 2020. The African American population is expected to increase from 13.4% in 2020 to 14.7% in 2060, and the Asian American population from 5.9% to 8.5% over the same period. In 2023, the civilian labor force comprised approximately 161 million individuals aged 16 and older. Women represented about 47% of this workforce. White individuals made up 76% of the labor force in 2023, while Black or African American individuals constituted 13%, and Asian individuals accounted for 7%. These demographic trends highlight the increasing representation of various racial and ethnic groups within the U.S. population and labor force. Employers are encouraged to adopt inclusive recruitment strategies to attract and retain talent from this diverse and growing pool.
- Demographic Trend Toward Women's Career Advancement.** According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of women in the labor force in 2021 was approximately 75.7 million and is expected to increase to 77.2 million by 2024. Women accounted for 51.8% of all workers employed in management, professional, and related occupations in 2023, somewhat more than their share of total employment (46.9%). The share of women in specific occupations within this large category varied. For example, 30.6% of chief executives and 39.5% of lawyers were women, all increases from 2022, whereas 87.4% of registered nurses, 78.6% of elementary and middle school teachers, 57.0% of accountants and auditors, and 20.2% of software developers were women. The participation and advancement of women in the U.S. labor force have seen notable changes in recent years. As of January 2025, approximately 79 million women are active in the labor force, surpassing pre-pandemic levels by nearly 2 million. However, the labor force participation rate for women was 57.5% in January 2025, slightly below the pre-pandemic rate of 58.0% in February 2020. In 2023, women held 51.8% of professional occupations, exceeding their overall employment share of 47.1%.

Representation varied across specific roles:

- Chief Executives: Approximately 30% were women.
- Lawyers: Women comprised about 39.5%.
- Registered Nurses: A significant 87.4% were women.
- Elementary and Middle School Teachers: Women made up 78.6%.
- Accountants and Auditors: 57.0% were women.
- Software Developers: Women represented 20.2%.

Despite progress in certain areas, disparities persist. For every 100 men promoted from entry-level to manager positions, only 87 women receive similar promotions, with the gap widening for women of color. Additionally, while women constitute nearly half of the workforce, they hold only about 29% of C-suite leadership roles, often in positions less likely to lead to CEO appointments, such as human resources. These statistics highlight ongoing challenges in achieving gender parity in leadership and underscore the need for continued efforts to support women's career advancement across all sectors.

- Rising Spending Power of Diverse Population.** PDN segments are focused on providing professional enhancement tools to diverse Americans including women. We believe diverse professionals are underserved and represent a very strong opportunity to enhance our shareholders' value. The Selig Center for Economic Growth, using data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and other sources, estimates the nation's total buying power (defined as total income after taxes) reached \$13.9 trillion in 2016 and grew to \$17.5 trillion by 2020 with minority groups making the fastest gains. For example, between 2010 and 2020, Asian-American buying power grew by 111% to \$1.3 trillion; the buying power for those of Hispanic ethnicity grew by 87% to \$1.9 trillion, Native American buying power grew by 67% to \$140 billion, and African American buying power grew by 61% to \$1.6 trillion. According to the University of Georgia's Selig Center for Economic Growth, the combined buying power of African American, Asian American, and Native American consumers represents nearly 17.5% of the total U.S. buying power in 2023, signifying a significant increase compared to previous years, with this group controlling almost \$1 out of every \$5.75 spent in the country.
- Evolving Digital Connectivity and AI-Driven Networking.** The digital landscape has rapidly transformed, with artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced algorithms reshaping how people connect, communicate, and collaborate online. The internet has evolved beyond a simple information hub into an interactive, intelligent, and personalized ecosystem, where AI enhances engagement and user experience.

**AI-Powered Networking & Personalization** Social and professional networking platforms now leverage AI to curate content, recommend connections, and facilitate smarter interactions based on user preferences and behavioral patterns. Machine learning algorithms analyze engagement trends to help professionals find relevant opportunities, build meaningful relationships, and expand their networks more efficiently than ever before.

**The Rise of Generative AI & Virtual Communities** With the rise of generative AI, digital networking is becoming more immersive and interactive. AI-powered assistants help professionals optimize their personal brands, craft compelling content, and streamline communication. Additionally, virtual communities are integrating AI-driven matchmaking and sentiment analysis, enabling users to connect with like-minded individuals and discover career opportunities in ways that were not possible before.

**Future of Online Engagement** The convergence of socialization, AI, and automation is redefining digital interactions. Networking platforms are integrating real-time AI-driven insights, voice-enabled search, and predictive analytics to create a more dynamic and engaging experience. As a result, professionals can leverage these advancements to build stronger networks, stay ahead in their industries, and unlock new opportunities with precision and speed. This shift marks a new era in online connectivity, where AI is not just a tool but a driving force in shaping the future of professional and social networking.

## Our Solutions

We currently operate in three business segments comprised of: (i) TalentAlly, which maintains and operates job board software and hosts career fairs, (ii) National Association of Professional Women ("NAPW Network"), a professional networking organization that addresses personal and professional development opportunities for women, and (iii) RemoteMore USA ("RemoteMore") which provides companies with talented engineers to provide solutions to their software needs. In 2018, we started transacting new NAPW Network memberships under the International Association of Women ("IAW") brand in the USA. In 2024, we rebranded our Professional Diversity Network business to TalentAlly.

In 2024, our TalentAlly Network, NAPW Network and RemoteMore business units represented approximately 67%, 6%, and 27% of our gross revenues, respectively.





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For financial information about our operating segments please see Note 15 of our Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report.

***TalentAlly***

*Recruitment Solutions.* The TalentAlly Network consists of several online professional job seeker communities dedicated to serving professionals in the United States and employers seeking to hire talent from a wide range of sources with many demographics represented. We use the word “professional” to describe any person interested in the Company’s websites or career fairs presumably for the purpose of career advancement or related benefits offered by the Company, whether or not such person is employed and regardless of the level of education or skills possessed by such person. Leveraging the power of our affinity job seeker groups, these professionals harness the Company’s relationships with employers and recruiters to help advance their careers. We operate these recruitment affinity groups within the following sectors: Women, Hispanic-Americans, African-Americans, Asian-Americans, persons with disabilities, Military Professionals, and LGBTQ+. In addition, the Company also manages the job seeker websites and career fairs for prominent diverse membership-based organizations including but not limited to NAACP, National Urban League, and Kappa Alpha Psi. Employers and recruiters benefit from the Company’s relationship with these organizations, which allows them to access a large pool of qualified jobs seekers in a centralized manner.

Our TalentAlly Network has registered users for our recruitment services. We use the term “registered user” to describe a consumer who has affirmatively visited one of our properties, opted into an affinity group and provided us with demographic or contact information enabling us to match them with employers and/or jobs, and to sell them ancillary products and services. We expect that continued registered user growth of the TalentAlly Network will enable us to further develop our list of online professional diversity networking and career placement solutions. We currently provide access to our TalentAlly Network websites to registered users at no cost. The Company is always exploring various partnerships with other service providers to increase their offerings to both job seekers and employers. Our goal is to use an asset light approach to provide quality products and services, to increase our value to those we serve and drive additional capital without significant capital investments. In 2024, we entered into a partnership with AI Geo to leverage AI technology to enhance job seeker engagement through a mock interview platform.

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We offer employers of all sizes seeking to expand their talent, and to third-party recruiters (i) real-time solutions that deliver qualified talent from a large pool of candidates, (ii) advertising and promotion of their job opportunities to our networks, and (iii) assistance with posting their job opportunities to career agencies in a manner compliant with the regulations and requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity OFCCP, including those of state and local governments. Our recruitment advertising solutions promote hiring and retention success by providing job seekers with information that we believe allows them to look beyond a corporate brand, deeper into employers' core values. We use sophisticated technology to deliver recruitment advertising using internet banner ads and email marketing targeted by geography and occupation, based upon data from our audiences' profiles and job searches on our websites. As of December 31, 2024, we had approximately 300 enterprise companies and 1450 total customers utilizing our products and services.

We offer employers of all sizes seeking to expand their talent, and to third-party recruiters (i) real-time solutions that deliver diverse talent, (ii) advertising and promotion of their job opportunities to our networks of diverse professionals and (iii) assistance with posting their job opportunities to career agencies in a manner compliant with the regulations and requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity OFCCP, including those of state and local governments. Our recruitment advertising solutions promote hiring and retention success by providing job seekers with information that we believe allows them to look beyond a corporate brand, deeper into employers' core values. We use sophisticated technology to deliver recruitment advertising using internet banner ads and email marketing targeted by geography and occupation, based upon data from our audiences' profiles and job searches on our websites. As of December 31, 2024, we had approximately 300 enterprise companies and 1450 total customers utilizing our products and services.

*Career Fairs.* Through our events business, a part of our TalentAlly Network business segment, we produce premier face-to-face and virtual recruiting events we call Professional Diversity Career Fairs. The Company's events help employers connect with a new marketplace of qualified professionals. We believe our events are the only events of their type endorsed by leading organizations such as the NAACP, National Urban League, Phi Beta Sigma and others. Participating employers range from Fortune 500 companies to federal, state and local agencies and from smaller employers to non-profit organizations, all of which seek a proactive approach to diversity recruiting. We also produce virtual and in-person career fairs as part of high-profile national events such as the NAACP National Convention, the Urban League National Conference and historically black sorority and fraternity conferences.

In January 2023, through a newly formed wholly-owned subsidiary, we purchased the assets and operations of Expo Experts LLC ("Expo Experts"), an Ohio limited liability company. Expo Experts specializes in producing premier face-to-face and virtual recruiting events for Engineering, Technology and Security Clearance positions. We believe that this acquisition complements our current career fair business.

*PDNRecruits.* We use matching and targeting technology to match members with our clients' open jobs on a renewing month-to-month license basis, designed to provide the Company with increasing residual income as we add new clients and sell additional licenses. The PDNRecruits product is a significant step towards increasing online sales in a scalable and residual manner.

*TalentAlly Placement.* As part of our robust suite of recruitment offerings for employers, the Company offers a contingent hiring solution. It is a pay-per-hire offering that charges a percentage of the first year's annual salary plus bonus for candidates we source and they hire. We believe our superior brand positioning, large network of diverse talent and our vast employer relationships position us well for continued growth in this segment.

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***NAPW Network***

The NAPW Network is a professional networking organization for women. We use the terms “member” or “membership” to describe a consumer who has viewed our marketing material, opted into membership with the NAPW Network, provided demographic information and engaged in an onboarding call with a membership coordinator. Paid memberships provide greater access to networking opportunities and other membership perks, including access to upgraded packages. Members of the NAPW Network enjoy a wealth of resources dedicated to developing their professional networks, furthering their education and skills and promoting their businesses and career accomplishments.

We provide NAPW Network members with opportunities to network and develop valuable business relationships with other professionals through NAPW’s website, as well as at events hosted at local chapters across the United States. In March 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all events shifted to a virtual format hosted on third-party electronic platforms, such as Zoom. In October 2021, NAPW launched a Global virtual chapter to expand its audience outside of the United States. TalentAlly Network products and services are being deployed to provide enhanced value to the NAPW membership experience, which we believe will be an important component in increasing both the number of new memberships and renewals of existing memberships.

*IAW Leadership Lab.* In 2020, IAW launched the Leadership Lab platform as an enhancement to the NAPW eCoaching platform. IAW also offers virtual networking roundtable events throughout the month where members who are established experts in their field provide participants insight and tips on how to overcome career and business challenges. Hosted by NAPW’s President, our unique platform connects our members with professional life and career coaches from within the NAPW membership base. Through these events, members gain insight, guidance and inspiration to help them maximize their personal and professional potential. Topics include the Power of Intentionality - Turning Good Intentions Into Actions, The Power of Authentic Communication, and Confident Steps To Create a Thriving Life. The on-line events also include the opportunity for members to network with other participants in the live chat room. Members are also able to access a recording of these events in the NAPW website.

*Professional Identity Management.* Through the NAPW Network website, NAPW Network members are able to create, manage and share their professional identity online and promote themselves and their businesses. NAPW Network members can also promote their career achievements and their businesses through placement on the NAPW Network website’s home page, in proprietary press releases, in the online Member Marketplace and in monthly newsletter publications. In addition, the TalentAlly provides members with direct access to employers seeking to hire professional women at a high level of connectivity and efficiency.

*Access to Knowledge.* In addition to networking and promotional opportunities, NAPW Network also provides to its members the ability to further develop their skills and expand their knowledge base through monthly newsletters, online and in-person seminars, webinars and certification courses.

*Upgraded Memberships and Ancillary Products.* Upgraded packages include additional promotional and publicity tools, as well as mentorship opportunities and enhanced professional development.

*Partner Discounts.* We also offer NAPW Network members exclusive discounts on third-party products and services.

*IAW Global Women’s Network.* This network offers in-person and online networking with like-minded women to foster enhanced career connections and opportunities. Members can promote their brands, identify new career opportunities, and build lasting relationships at monthly meetings and events. These interactive events allow members to improve their verbal resumes, expand their networks, and hear from inspiring speakers. Regional and national conferences provide inspirational panels, unique networking opportunities, and the chance for members to promote their business or services. Our partners allow members to explore events outside the United States and create opportunities to network with women around the world.

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***RemoteMore USA***

RemoteMore USA is an innovative, global entity that provides remote-hiring marketplace services for software developers and companies. Companies are connected with reliable, cost-efficient, vetted developers, and software developers are empowered to find meaningful jobs regardless of their location. As of December 31, 2024, we owned an approximate 73% interest in RemoteMore USA.

**Operations: Sales, Marketing and Customer Support**

***Sales and Marketing***

Our TalentAlly Network sales resources for recruitment and recruitment advertising products and services include a sales force with eight sales professionals, and website technology which facilitates e-commerce transactions. We market directly to employers and third-party recruiters. Our sales team uses a combination of telephone, email and face-to-face marketing, including personal visits to companies or their recruitment agencies, as well as appearances at industry and trade group events where diversity recruitment recruiters are in attendance. We have also formed strategic alliances with parties who are able to help extend our organic reach. In addition, we are developing purely online marketing channels to bring recruiters to us in bulk and use products based on a matching and targeting technology to facilitate sales. We have specialty units within our sales force dedicated to serving: (i) federal, state and local governments and companies and contractors who serve these governmental entities, (ii) small and medium sized businesses as defined by companies with less than 2,500 employees, and (iii) large enterprises with greater than 2,500 employees.

We sell NAPW/IAW Network membership subscriptions offline through our NAPW/IAW Network sales force, which currently includes two sales professionals, each of whom sells initial membership services. We also support online membership subscriptions through online sales via our website. We developed a secure, work-from-home technology along with a training and supervision platform aimed at reducing overhead costs, increasing per-representative profitability, and offering our sales professionals flexible working arrangements. All sales representatives are capable of selling upgraded memberships and ancillary products.

RemoteMore contracts with companies that are in need of customized software development and pairs them with developers from a database of developers. Services vary from simple software solutions to detailed programming where teams of developers work together.

***Customer Success and Compliance***

In addition to our sales professionals, we also employ teams to provide customer support, compliance and enhance member experience. Our customer success teams work together to improve engagement with our members and to ensure a high degree of member satisfaction and retention. Our customer success teams also work with our Development and Executive teams to identify new lead-generation, sales and membership product opportunities, and to test those, as well as new approaches to our current sales. The team works closely with customer support and sales management to ensure that sales are conducted in an ethical manner and to identify sales representatives who would benefit from enhanced training.

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## Our Strengths

We believe the following elements give us a competitive advantage to accomplish our mission:

- *Dedicated Focus on Diverse Professionals.* Our focus on providing career opportunities for diverse professionals differentiates us from other online job seeker websites, such as Indeed or ZipRecruiter. We provide a platform that allows employers to recruit and attract from a targeted pool of diverse candidates rather than a pool of general market candidates. It provides employers unique advantages in terms of costs savings and time and allows employers to advance their corporate recruitment strategy. Additionally, our strategic partnerships with diversity-based membership organizations such as Lean In Latinas, Kappa Alpha Psi, etc., provide our clients enhanced access to specialized talent using the PDN platform.
- *Online and In-Person Diversity Career Fair Services.* The Company has a comprehensive and coordinated method of connecting diverse job seekers with companies seeking to hire diverse employees using virtual and brick and mortar career fairs. The fairs allow us to connect with local employers, recruiters, and job seekers in specific cities across the U.S. Our career fair services allow the Company to diversity its offerings and complement its online job board services.
- *Platform That Harnesses the Power of Web Socialization.* We believe that our membership base will continue to grow and that our platform will be an increasingly powerful tool that enables our members to leverage their connections and shared information for the collective benefit of all of the participants on our platform. We believe that we are the first online professional network to focus on the diversity recruitment sector.
- *Relationships with Strategic Partners.* We consider our partner alliances to be a key value to our clients because they enable us to expand our job distribution and outreach efforts. We continue to expand our relationships with key strategic partners that we believe are valuable to our core clients. Our websites have backup and contingency plans in place in the event that an unexpected circumstance occurs.
- *Relationships with Professional Entities & Organizations.* Our team has experience working with multicultural professional organizations. We partner with a number of leading minority professional organizations, including but not limited to:
  - DisabledPersons.com
  - HireVeterans.com
  - Delta Sigma Theta
  - Iota Phi Theta
  - Kappa Alpha Psi
  - Phi Beta Sigma
  - Black Women Talk Tech
  - Job Opportunities for Disabled American Veterans (JOFDAV)
  - PR Girl Manifesto
  - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
  - The National Urban League
  - TechLatino
  - Lean In Latinas
  - ERG Leadership Alliance
  - Gamma Phi Omega
  - Lambda Sigma Upsilon
  - Sigma Gamma Rho
  - The Authentic Asian
  - Alpha Phi Alpha
  - The Pride Network
  - Boston While Black
  - Kappa Delta Chi
- *Customized Technology Platform.* The current technology platform being used has been custom-designed and built to facilitate engagement, job searching, real-time job qualification, and matching.

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We believe that the following elements give us a competitive advantage with respect to the NAPW Network:

- *Exclusive Focus on Professional Women.* As a result of NAPW Network’s exclusive focus on professional women, we believe that through NAPW Network we provide a secure and less intimidating environment within which our members can successfully network and establish new and lasting business relationships.
- *Attractive Industry Demographic Trends.* Favorable demographic trends regarding women’s participation in the labor force will further the growth in NAPW Network’s membership base and we have first-mover advantage with respect to generalized professional networking for women.
- *Large and Diverse National Membership Base.* The membership base of the NAPW Network is diverse in terms of ethnicity, age, income, experience, industry and occupation. It includes members from small and large corporations, as well as entrepreneurs and business owners. We believe the diversity of the NAPW Network membership base is a key component of its value.
- *Comprehensive Product and Service Offerings to Deliver Value to Members.* We believe that our comprehensive product offerings provide women valuable tools to help them advance their careers and expand their businesses. Through networking opportunities online and at local chapter events in their communities, regional events and the NAPW Network national networking conference, discounts provided on seminars, webinars and educational certification courses, and opportunities to promote themselves and their businesses, NAPW members are provided the opportunities and tools for their professional development.
- *Member Acquisition and Recurring Cash Flow.* We believe that NAPW Network’s direct marketing lead generation efforts, which utilize a combination of digital strategies, are among the most efficient in the industry as measured by our internal response and click-through rates. Additionally, in addition to an evolving eCommerce model, the company has been actively growing a member-to-member acquisition model as we strive to move to an organic growth model. We have implemented web-based technologies to assist our members in recruiting colleagues and friends to the organization. Further, NAPW Network memberships renew annually, providing a valuable recurring stream of cash flow.

**Operations: Geography**

Our headquarters is located in Chicago, Illinois, and houses our key executives, as well as many of our sales, customer support, marketing and IT personnel.

**Intellectual Property**

To protect our intellectual property rights, we rely on a combination of federal, state and common law rights, as well as contractual restrictions. We rely on trade secrets, copyright and trademark rights to protect our intellectual property. We pursue the registration of our domain names and trademarks in the United States. Our registered trademarks in the United States include the “iHispano” mark with stylized logo, the “Black Career Network” mark with stylized logo, the “Professional Diversity Network” mark with our tagline “the power of millions for the benefit of one,” the name “National Association of Professional Women” and “NAPW,” and the name “International Association of Women” and “IAW”, as well as others. We also own the copyrights to certain articles in NAPW publications. We strive to exert control over access to our intellectual property and customized technology by entering into confidentiality and invention assignment agreements with our employees and contractors and confidentiality agreements with third parties in the ordinary course of our business.

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Our efforts to protect our proprietary rights may not be successful. Any significant impairment of our intellectual property rights could adversely impact our business or our ability to compete. In addition, protecting our intellectual property rights is costly and time-consuming. Any unauthorized disclosure or use of our intellectual property could make it more expensive to do business and adversely affect our operating results.

## Competition

We face significant competition in all aspects of our business. Specifically, with respect to our members and our recruitment consumer advertising and marketing solutions, we compete with existing general market online professional networking websites, such as LinkedIn, Indeed, Zip Recruiter, and Monster Worldwide, Inc., as well as ethnic minority focused social networking websites, such as Diversityjobs.com, Workplacediversity.com, and other companies such as Facebook, Google, Microsoft and Twitter that are developing or could develop competing solutions. We also generally compete with online and offline enterprises, including newspapers, television and direct mail marketers that generate revenue from recruiters, advertisers and marketers, and professional organizations. With respect to our hiring solutions, we also compete with traditional online recruiting companies such as Career Builder, talent management companies such as Taleo, and traditional recruiting firms.

Larger, more well-established companies may focus on professional networking and could directly compete with us. Other companies might also launch new competing services that we do not offer. Nevertheless, we believe that our focus on diverse online professional networking communities and the number of registered users or members, as the case may be, overall and within each affinity group that we serve, are competitive strengths in our market.

## Government Regulation

We are subject to a number of federal, state and foreign laws and regulations that affect companies conducting business on the Internet. These laws are still evolving and could be amended or interpreted in ways that could be detrimental to our business. In the United States and abroad, laws relating to the liability of providers of online services for activities of their users and other third-parties are currently being tested by a number of claims, including actions based on invasion of privacy and other torts, unfair competition, copyright and trademark infringement and other theories based on the nature and content of the materials searched, the advertisements posted or the content provided by users. Any court ruling or other governmental action that imposes liability on providers of online services for the activities of their users and other third parties could materially harm our business. In addition, rising concerns about the use of social networking technologies for illegal conduct, such as the unauthorized dissemination of national security information, money laundering or supporting terrorist activities may in the future produce legislation or other governmental action that could require changes to our products or services, restrict or impose additional costs upon the conduct of our business or cause users to abandon material aspects of our service.

In the area of information security and data protection, many states have passed laws requiring notification to users when there is a security incident, or security breach for personal data, or requiring the adoption of minimum information security standards that are often unclear and difficult to implement. The costs of compliance with these laws are significant and may increase in the future. Further, we may be subject to significant liabilities if we fail to comply with these laws.

We are also subject to federal, state and foreign laws regarding privacy and protection of member data. We post on our websites our privacy policy and terms of use. Compliance with privacy-related laws may be costly. However, any failure by us to comply with our privacy policy or privacy-related laws could result in proceedings against us by governmental authorities or private parties, which could be detrimental to our business. Further, any failure by us to protect our members' privacy and data could result in a loss of member confidence in us and ultimately in a loss of members and customers, which could adversely affect our business.

Because our services are accessible worldwide, certain foreign jurisdictions may claim that we are required to comply with their laws, including in jurisdictions where we have no local entity, employees or infrastructure.

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Our direct marketing operations with respect to the NAPW Network are subject to various federal and state “do not call” list requirements. The Federal Trade Commission has created a national “do not call” registry. Under these federal regulations, consumers may have their phone numbers added to the national “do not call” registry. Generally, we are prohibited from calling anyone on that registry. Telemarketers are required to pay a fee to access the registry and are required to compare their call lists against the nation’s “do not call” registry at least once every 31 days. The rule provides for fines of up to \$16,000 per violation and other possible penalties. These rules may be construed to limit our ability to market our products and services to new customers. Further, we may incur penalties if we do not conduct our telemarketing activities in compliance with these rules.

#### Seasonality

Our quarterly operating results are affected by the seasonality of employers’ businesses and hiring practices.

#### Employees

As of December 31, 2024, we had a total of 43 employees; 41 were full-time employees in various United States locations. We also regularly engage independent contractors to perform various services. As of December 31, 2024, we engaged 2 independent contractors. None of our employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. We believe that we have good relationships with our employees.

#### Corporate History

We were incorporated in Illinois in October 2003, under the name of IH Acquisition, LLC and changed our name to iHispano.com LLC in February 2004. In 2007, we changed our business platform and implemented technology to become the operator of communities of professional networking sites for diverse professionals. In March 2012, we changed our name to Professional Diversity Network, LLC. In March 2013, we completed our initial public offering and converted from an Illinois LLC to a Delaware corporation. We acquired the NAPW Network in September 2014.

Our principal executive offices are located at 55 E. Monroe Street, Suite 2120, Chicago, Illinois, 60603 and our telephone number is (312) 614-0950. Our Corporate website address is [www.ipdn.com](http://www.ipdn.com). References to our website addressed in this report are provided as a convenience and do not constitute and should not be viewed as an incorporation by reference of the information contained on, or available through, the website. Therefore, such information should not be considered part of this report.

#### ITEM 1A - RISK FACTORS

*Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks described below before making an investment decision. The risks described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks we are not presently aware of or that we currently believe are immaterial may also impair our business operations. Our business could be harmed by any of these risks. The trading price of our common stock or other securities could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment.*



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## Risks Related to Our Business and Financial Condition

***We have incurred net losses, our liquidity has been significantly reduced and we could continue to incur losses and negative cash flow in the future.***

We recorded a net loss from continuing operations of approximately \$2.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2024, and \$4.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2023. Our revenues decreased from \$7.7 million during 2023 to \$6.7 million during 2024, and our costs and expenses decreased from \$12.2 million during 2023, to \$9.1 million during 2024. In addition, we used approximately \$2.5 million in cash flow from continuing operations during the year ended December 31, 2024. Our independent registered public accounting firm has included in its audit report for the year ended December 31, 2024, an explanatory paragraph expressing substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. We will need to continue to increase revenues, reduce our corporate operating expenses, raise capital through the issuance of common stock or enter into a strategic merger or acquisition, to achieve profitability and positive cash flow from operations. Despite our efforts, we may not achieve profitability or positive cash flow in the future, and even if we do, we may not be able to sustain being profitable.

***The market for online professional networks is highly competitive, and if we are unable to compete effectively our sales and results of operations will suffer.***

We face significant competition in all aspects of our business, and we expect such competition to increase, particularly in the market for online professional networks.

Our industry is rapidly evolving and becoming increasingly competitive. Larger and more established online professional networking companies, such as LinkedIn or Monster Worldwide, may focus on the online diversity professional networking market and could directly compete with us. Rival companies or smaller companies, including application developers, could also launch new products and services that could compete with us and gain market acceptance quickly. Individual employers have and may continue to create and maintain their own network of diverse candidates.

We also expect that our existing competitors will focus on professional diversity recruiting. A number of these companies may have greater resources than we do, which may enable them to compete more effectively. For example, our competitors with greater resources may partner with wireless telecommunications carriers or other Internet service providers that may provide Internet users, especially those that access the Internet through mobile devices, incentives to visit our competitors' websites. Such tactics or similar tactics could decrease the number of our visits, unique visitors and number of users and members, which would materially and adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

Additionally, users of online social networks, such as Facebook, may choose to use, or increase their use of, those networks for professional purposes, which may result in those users decreasing or eliminating their use of our specialized online professional network. Companies that currently do not focus on online professional diversity networking could also expand their focus to diversity networking. LinkedIn may develop its own proprietary online diversity network and compete directly against us. To the extent LinkedIn develops its own network or establishes alliances and relationships with others, our business, operating results, and financial condition could be materially harmed. Finally, other companies that provide content for professionals could develop more compelling offerings that compete with us and adversely impact our ability to keep our members, attract new members or sell our solutions to customers.

***Our business depends on strong brands, and any failure to maintain, protect and enhance our brands would hurt our ability to retain or expand our base of members, enterprises and professional organizations, or our ability to increase their level of engagement.***

Maintaining, protecting, and enhancing all of our brands is critical to expanding the base of members for the TalentAlly Network and NAPW Network and increasing their engagement with the product and services offerings of the Company, and will depend largely on our ability to maintain member trust, be a technology leader and continue to provide high-quality offerings, which we may not do successfully in the future. We have devoted significant resources in developing our brands, particularly NAPW. That brand is predicated on the idea that professional women will trust it and find value in building and maintaining their professional identities and reputations on the NAPW Network platform. Despite our efforts to protect our brands and prevent their misuse, if others misuse any of our brands or pass themselves off as being endorsed or affiliated with the TalentAlly Network or the NAPW Network, it could harm our reputation and our business could suffer. If members of any of our networks or potential members determine that they can use other platforms, such as social networks, for the same purposes as or as a replacement for the TalentAlly Network or the NAPW Network, or if they choose to blend their professional and social networking activities, our brands and the business of the Company could be harmed. Members of any of our networks could find that new product or service offerings that are introduced are difficult to use or may feel that they degrade their experience with our organization, which could harm the reputation of the networks and the Company for delivering high-quality offerings. Our brands are also important in attracting and maintaining high performing employees. If we do not successfully maintain strong and trusted brands for our networks, our business can be materially and adversely affected.

***If we do not continue to attract new members to the NAPW Network, or if existing NAPW Network members do not renew their subscriptions, renew at lower levels or on less favorable terms, or fail to purchase additional offerings, we may not achieve our revenue projections, and our operating results would be harmed.***

Membership fees and related services from NAPW have declined in recent periods. In order to grow the NAPW Network, we must continually attract new members to the NAPW Network, sell additional product and service offerings to existing NAPW Network members and increase the level of renewals. Our ability to do so depends in large part on the success of our sales and marketing efforts. Unlike companies that provide more tangible products, the nature of our product and service offerings is such that members may decide to terminate or not renew their agreements because they do not see their cancellation as causing significant disruptions to their own businesses.

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We must demonstrate to NAPW Network members that our product and service offerings provide them with access to an audience of influential, affluent, and highly educated women. However, potential members may not be familiar with our product and service offerings or may prefer other more traditional products and services for their professional advancement and networking needs. The rate at which we expand the NAPW Network's membership base or increase its members' renewal rates may decline or fluctuate because of several factors, including the prices of product and service offerings, the prices of products and services offered by competitors or reductions in their professional advancement and networking spending levels due to macroeconomic or other factors and the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of our offerings. If we do not attract new members to the NAPW Network or if NAPW Network members do not renew their agreements for our product and service offerings, renew at lower levels or on less favorable terms or do not purchase additional offerings, our revenue from the segment may fall short of our projections.

***We may not be able to successfully identify and complete sufficient acquisitions to meet our growth strategy, and even if we are able to do so, we may not realize the anticipated benefits of these acquisitions.***

Part of our growth strategy is to acquire companies that we believe will add to and/or expand our service offerings.

Identifying suitable acquisition candidates can be difficult, time-consuming, and costly, and we may not be able to identify suitable candidates or complete acquisitions in a timely manner, on a cost-effective basis or at all. Even if we complete an acquisition, we may not realize the anticipated benefits of such an acquisition. Actual cost savings and synergies which may be achieved from an acquired entity may be lower than expected and may take a longer time to achieve than we anticipate. Our acquisitions have previously required, and any similar future transactions may also require, significant efforts and expenditure, in particular with respect to integrating the acquired business with our historical business. We may encounter unexpected difficulties, or incur unexpected costs, in connection with acquisition activities and integration efforts, which include:

- conflicts and inconsistencies in information technology and infrastructures;
- inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies, business cultures and compensation structures between us and an acquired entity;
- difficulties in the retention of existing customers and attraction of new customers;
- overlap of users and members of an acquired entity and one of our websites;
- difficulties in retaining key employees;
- the identification and elimination of redundant and underperforming operations and assets;
- diversion of management's attention from ongoing business concerns;
- the possibility of tax costs or inefficiencies associated with the integration of the operations; and
- loss of customer goodwill.

If we fail to successfully complete the integration of an acquired entity, or to realize the anticipated benefits of the integration of an acquired entity, our financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

***We rely heavily on our information systems and if our access to this technology is impaired, or we fail to further develop our technology, our business could be significantly harmed.***

Our success depends in large part upon our ability to store, retrieve, process and manage substantial amounts of information, including our database of our members. To achieve our strategic objectives and to remain competitive, we must continue to develop and enhance our information systems. Our future success will depend on our ability to adapt to rapidly changing technologies, to adapt our information systems to evolving industry standards and to improve the performance and reliability of our information systems. This may require the acquisition of equipment and software and the development, either internally or through independent consultants, of new proprietary software. Our inability to design, develop, implement and utilize, in a cost-effective manner, information systems that provide the capabilities necessary for us to compete effectively would materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and operating results.

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***Our direct sales strategy, which requires personal interaction with employers and third-party recruiters, may limit our ability to grow recruitment revenue and recruitment advertising revenue.***

As part of our strategy to market our products and services directly to employers and third-party recruiters, we rely on our direct sales force for recruitment revenue and recruitment advertising revenue. We currently employ professionals in sales, sales support and marketing who are trained in selling our products and services. We continuously attempt to optimize the direct sales team and refine the manner in which our products and services are sold. While the Company made progress in growing its direct sales, we have not matured the sales force to the point of predictability, nor have we sold enough services to achieve profitability. There is no assurance that our direct sales strategy will yield sufficient recruitment revenue and recruitment advertising revenue in the future.

***We may not timely and effectively scale and adapt our existing technology and network infrastructure to ensure that our websites are accessible within an acceptable load time.***

An element that is key to our continued growth is the ability of our members and other users that we work with to access any of our websites within acceptable load times. We call this website performance. We have experienced, and may in the future experience, website disruptions, outages and other performance problems due to a variety of factors, including infrastructure changes, human or software errors, capacity constraints due to an overwhelming number of users accessing our websites simultaneously, and denial of service or fraud or security attacks. In some instances, we may not be able to identify the cause or causes of these website performance problems within an acceptable period of time.

If any of our websites are unavailable when users attempt to access them or they do not load as quickly as users expect, users may seek other websites to obtain the information or services for which they are looking and may not return to our websites as often in the future, or at all. This would negatively impact on our ability to attract members and other users and increase engagement on our websites. To the extent that we do not effectively address capacity constraints, upgrade our systems as needed and continually develop our technology and network architecture to accommodate actual and anticipated changes in technology, our business, operating results and financial condition may be materially and adversely affected.

***Our business involves higher risks associated with remote work.***

RemoteMore's business heavily relies on remote working with its customers, which means many contractors will use their own personal devices and home networks to perform work tasks. This presents some of the largest risks to the worker and the business. Many personal devices lack the hardened nature of a corporate device and other security capabilities, such as encryption, auto-backups, authentication and security monitoring, which may expose our business or our customers' business to additional risk of cyber-attack. This remote working environment makes it more difficult to monitor contractor access to data, information sent and received online, and legitimacy of access.

***Our systems are vulnerable to natural disasters, acts of terrorism and cyber-attacks.***

Our systems are vulnerable to damage or interruption from catastrophic occurrences such as earthquakes, floods, fires, power loss, telecommunication failures, terrorist attacks, cyber-attacks and similar events. For systems which are not based in cloud storage, we have implemented a disaster recovery program, maintained by a third-party vendor, which allows us to move production to a back-up data center in the event of a catastrophe. Although this program is functional, it does not yet provide a real-time back-up data center, so if our primary data center shuts down, there will be a period of time that such website will remain shut down while the transition to the back-up data center takes place. Despite any precautions we may take, the occurrence of a natural disaster or other unanticipated problems at our hosting facilities could result in lengthy interruptions in our services. Although we carry cyber security insurance, our claims may exceed the insurance coverage, and we may not be fully compensated by third party insurers in the event of service interruption or cyber-attack. Furthermore, our business may never recover from such an event.

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***If our security measures are compromised, or if any of our websites are subject to attacks that degrade or deny the ability of members or customers to access our solutions, members and customers may curtail or stop use of our solutions.***

Our members provide us with information relevant to their professional networking and/or career-seeking experience with the option of having their information become public or remain private. If we experience compromises to our security that result in website performance or availability problems, the complete shutdown of our websites or the loss or unauthorized disclosure of confidential information, our members may lose trust and confidence in us, and will use our websites less often or stop using our websites entirely. Further, outside parties may attempt to fraudulently induce employees, members or customers to disclose sensitive information in order to gain access to our information or our members' or customers' information. Because the methods used to obtain unauthorized access, disable or degrade service, or sabotage systems change frequently, often are not recognized until launched against a target and may originate from less regulated and remote areas around the world, we may be unable to proactively address these methods or to implement adequate preventative measures. Any or all of these issues could negatively impact our ability to attract new members and increase engagement by existing members, cause existing members to close their accounts or existing customers to cancel their contracts, subject us to lawsuits, regulatory fines or other action or liability, thereby materially and adversely affecting our reputation, our business, operating results and financial condition.

***The widespread adoption of different smart phones, smart phone operating systems and mobile applications, or apps, could require us to make substantial expenditures to modify or adapt our websites, applications and services.***

The number of people who access the Internet through devices other than personal computers, including personal digital assistants, smart phones and handheld tablets or computers, has increased dramatically in the past few years and we believe this number will continue to increase. Each manufacturer or distributor of these devices may establish unique technical standards, and our services may not work or be viewable on these devices as a result. Furthermore, as new devices and new platforms are continually released, it is difficult to predict the problems we may encounter in developing versions of our services for use on these alternative devices and we may need to devote significant resources to the creation, support and maintenance of such devices. Our websites are designed using responsive technology and are built to provide a positive user experience on a user's Internet device, whether a mobile phone, and tablet, laptop or personal computer. If we are slow to develop products and technologies that are compatible with such devices, we might fail to capture a significant share of an increasingly important portion of the market for our services.

***If Internet search engines' methodologies are modified or our search result page rankings decline for other reasons, our member engagement and number of members and users could decline.***

We depend in part on various Internet search engines, such as Google, Bing and Yahoo!, to direct a significant amount of traffic to our websites. Our ability to maintain the number of visitors directed to our websites is not entirely within our control. Our competitors' search engine optimization ("SEO") efforts may result in their websites receiving a higher search result page ranking than ours, or Internet search engines could revise their methodologies in an attempt to improve their search results, which could adversely affect the placement of our search result page ranking. If search engine companies modify their search algorithms in ways that are detrimental to our new user growth or in ways that make it harder for our members to use our websites, or if our competitors' SEO efforts are more successful than ours, overall growth in our member base could slow, member engagement could decrease, and we could lose existing members. These modifications may be prompted by search engine companies entering the online professional networking market or aligning with competitors. Our websites have experienced fluctuations in search result rankings in the past, and we anticipate similar fluctuations in the future. Any reduction in the number of users directed to our websites would materially harm our business and operating results. Our platform includes connectivity across the social graph, including websites such as Facebook, LinkedIn and X (formerly Twitter). If for any reason these websites discontinue or alter their current open platform policy, it could have a negative impact on our user experience and our ability to compete in the same manner we do today.

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***Wireless communications providers may give their customers greater access to our competitors' websites.***

Wireless communications providers may provide users of mobile devices greater access to websites that compete with our websites at more favorable rates or at faster download speeds. This could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, operating results and financial condition. Creation of an unequal playing field in terms of Internet access could significantly benefit larger and better capitalized companies competing with us.

***The effect of significant declines in our ability to generate revenue may not be reflected in our short-term results of operations.***

We recognize revenue from sales of our hiring solutions over the life of a contract (typically 12 months) beginning the first month after the contract is signed. As a result, a significant portion of the revenue we report in each quarter is generated from agreements entered into during previous quarters. In addition, we may be unable to adjust our fixed costs in response to reduced revenue. Accordingly, the effect of significant declines in our ability to generate revenue may not be reflected in our short-term results of operations.

***The existing global economic and financial market environment has had, and may continue to have, a negative effect on our business and operations.***

Demand for our services is sensitive to changes in the level of economic activity. Many companies hire fewer employees when economic activity is slow. Following the financial crisis in 2008, and again following the development of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, unemployment in the United States increased and hiring activity was limited. Although the economy has begun to recover and unemployment in the United States has improved, if the economy does not continue to recover or worsens, or unemployment returns to high levels, demand for our services and our revenue may be reduced. In addition, lower demand for our services may lead to lower prices for our services. The volatility in global financial markets may also limit our ability to access the capital markets at a time when we would like, or need, to raise capital, which could have an impact on our ability to react to changing economic and business conditions. Accordingly, if the economy does not fully recover or worsens, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

***Our growth strategy may fail as a result of changing social trends.***

Our business is dependent on the continuity of certain social trends, such as the increasing socialization of the Internet, the demographic trend towards women's career advancement, the growing ethnic diversity of the United States population and labor force, a regulatory environment that promotes diversity in the workplace, the growing ethnic population's spending power and the acceptance and growth of online recruitment and advertising. Some or all of these trends may change over time. For example, increased privacy concerns may jeopardize the growth of online social and professional network websites. Furthermore, it is possible that people may not want to identify in online social or professional networks with a focus on diversity at all. Or alternatively, people who belong to more than one diversity group (such as Hispanic-American females, among others) may not be drawn to our websites, which singularly focus on one specific diversity group. In addition, a recent Supreme Court case ruled that race-conscious admissions decisions by universities are constitutionally impermissible. While the decision does not apply by its terms outside of higher education, it remains to be seen what impact it may have on private sector hiring practices in businesses and corporations or on DEI programs and initiatives generally. To the extent that the Court's decision leads corporations or other hiring entities to re-examine or scale back their diversity-related programs and initiatives, the market for some of our services may be adversely affected.

Our strategy may fail as a result of these changing social trends, and if we do not timely adjust our strategy to adapt to changing social trends, we will lose members, and our business, operating results and financial condition would be materially and adversely affected.

***The regulatory environment favorable to promoting diversity in the workplace has changed.***

Federal and state laws and regulations require certain companies engaged in business with governmental entities to report and promote diverse hiring practices. The repeal or modification of such laws and regulations could decrease the incentives for employers to actively seek diverse employee candidates through networks such as ours and materially affect our revenues. In January 2025, President Trump introduced Executive Orders that impact diversity initiatives in Federal programs which may trickle down to Corporations.

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***If our member profiles are out-of-date, inaccurate or lack the information that users and customers want to see, we may not be able to realize the full potential of our networks, which could adversely impact our future growth.***

We do not impose any selective or qualification criteria on membership and do not verify that any member of a particular Company website qualifies as a member of the ethnic, cultural or other group identified by that website. If our members do not update their information or provide accurate and complete information when they join our networks or do not establish sufficient connections, the value of our networks may be negatively impacted because our value proposition as diversity professional networks and as a source of accurate and comprehensive data will be weakened. For example, our hiring solutions customers may find that certain members misidentify their ethnic, national, cultural, racial, religious or gender classification, which could result in mismatches that erode customer confidence in our solutions. Similarly, incomplete or outdated member information would diminish the ability of our marketing solutions customers to reach their target audiences and our ability to provide research data to our customers. Therefore, we must provide features and products that demonstrate the value of our networks to our members and motivate them to add additional, timely and accurate information to their profile and our networks. If we fail to successfully motivate our members to do so, our business, operating results and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

***Failure to protect or enforce our intellectual property rights could materially harm our business and operating results.***

We regard the protection of our intellectual property as critical to our success. In particular, we must maintain, protect and enhance our brands. We strive to protect our intellectual property rights by relying on federal, state and common law rights, as well as contractual restrictions. In the ordinary course, we enter into confidentiality and invention assignment agreements with our employees and contractors, and confidentiality agreements with parties with whom we conduct business in order to limit access to, and disclosure and use of, our proprietary information and customized technology platform. However, these contractual arrangements and the other steps we have taken to protect our intellectual property may not prevent the misappropriation of our proprietary information or deter independent development of similar technologies by others.

We pursue the registration of our domain names, trademarks, and service marks in the United States and in certain locations outside the United States. Effective trademarks, trade dress and domain names are expensive to develop and maintain, both in terms of initial and ongoing registration requirements and the costs of defending our rights. We are seeking to protect our trademarks and domain names, a process that is expensive and may not be successful.

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Litigation may be necessary to enforce our intellectual property rights or determine the validity and scope of proprietary rights claimed by others. Any litigation of this nature, regardless of outcome or merit, could result in substantial costs and diversion of management and technical resources, any of which could adversely affect our business and operating results. We may incur significant costs in enforcing our trademarks against those who attempt to imitate our brands. If we fail to maintain, protect and enhance our intellectual property rights, our business and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

***We process, store and use personal information and other data, which subjects us to governmental regulation, enforcement actions and other legal obligations or liability related to data privacy and security, and our actual or perceived failure to comply with such obligations could materially and adversely affect our business.***

We receive, store and process personal information and other member data, and we enable our members to share their personal information with each other and with third parties. There are numerous federal, state, local and foreign laws regarding privacy and the storing, sharing, use, processing, disclosure and protection of personal information and other member data, the scope of which are changing, subject to differing interpretations and may be inconsistent between countries or conflict with other rules. We generally comply with industry standards and adhere to the terms of our privacy policies and privacy-related obligations to third parties (including voluntary third-party certification bodies such as TRUSTe). We strive to comply with all applicable laws, policies, legal obligations and industry codes of conduct relating to privacy and data protection. However, it is possible that these obligations may be interpreted and applied in a manner that is inconsistent from one jurisdiction to another and may conflict with other rules or our practices. Any failure or perceived failure by us to comply with our privacy policies, our privacy-related obligations to users or other third parties, or our privacy-related legal obligations, or any compromise of security that results in the unauthorized release or transfer of personally identifiable information or other member data, may result in governmental enforcement actions, litigation or public statements against us by consumer advocacy groups or others and could cause our members and customers to lose trust in us, which could have an adverse effect on our business. Additionally, if third parties we work with, such as customers, vendors or developers, violate applicable laws or our policies, such violations may also put our members' information at risk and could in turn have an adverse effect on our business.

***Public scrutiny of Internet privacy issues may result in increased regulation and different industry standards, which could deter or prevent us from providing our current products and solutions to our members and customers, thereby materially harming our business.***

The regulatory framework for privacy issues worldwide is currently in flux and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. Practices regarding the collection, use, storage, transmission and security of personal information by companies operating over the Internet have recently come under increased public scrutiny. The U.S. government, including the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce, has announced that it is reviewing the need for greater regulation for the collection of information concerning consumer behavior on the Internet, including regulation aimed at restricting certain on-line tracking and targeted advertising practices. In addition, various government and consumer agencies have also called for new regulations and changes in industry practices.

Our business could be adversely affected if legislation or regulations are adopted, interpreted or implemented in a manner that is inconsistent with our current business practices or that require changes to these practices, the design of our websites, products, features or our privacy policy. In particular, the success of our business has been, and we expect will continue to be, driven by our ability to use the data that our members share with us in accordance with each of our website privacy policies and terms of use. Therefore, our business, operating results and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected by any significant change to applicable laws, regulations or industry practices regarding the use or disclosure of data our members choose to share with us, or regarding the manner in which the express or implied consent of consumers for such use and disclosure is obtained. Such changes may require us to modify our products and features, possibly in a material manner, and may limit our ability to develop new products and features that make use of the data that our members voluntarily share with us.



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***Our business is subject to a variety of U.S. laws and regulations, many of which are unsettled and still developing and which could subject us to claims or otherwise materially harm our business.***

We are subject to a variety of laws and regulations in the United States, including laws regarding data retention, privacy and consumer protection, which are continually evolving and developing. The scope and interpretation of the laws that are or may be applicable to us are often uncertain and may be conflicting. For example, laws relating to the liability of providers of online services for activities of their users and other third parties are currently being tested by a number of claims, including actions based on invasion of privacy and other torts, unfair competition, copyright and trademark infringement, and other theories based on the nature and content of the materials searched, the ads posted or the content provided by users. In addition, regulatory authorities are considering a number of legislative and regulatory proposals concerning data protection and other matters that may be applicable to our business. It is difficult to predict how existing laws will be applied to our business and the new laws to which we may become subject. See the discussion included in Part 1, Item 1. “*Business—Government Regulation*” in this Annual Report.

If we are not able to comply with these laws or regulations or if we become liable under these laws or regulations, we could be harmed, and we may be forced to implement new measures to reduce our exposure to this liability. This may require us to expend substantial resources or to discontinue certain solutions, which would materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, the increased attention focused upon liability issues as a result of lawsuits and legislative proposals could materially harm our reputation or otherwise impact the growth of our business. Any costs incurred as a result of this potential liability could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***We are currently party to litigation and may in the future be subject to additional legal proceedings and litigation, which may be costly to defend and could materially and adversely affect our business results or operating and financial condition.***

We are currently party to litigation and may be party to additional lawsuits in the normal course of business. Results of the litigation to which we are a party cannot be predicted with certainty and there can be no assurance that this litigation will be resolved in our favor. We are a party to one proceeding in which the court recently granted summary judgment against NAPW on claims of failure to pay overtime wages. These matters are described in more detail under the heading “*Legal Proceedings*” in this Annual Report and our other periodic filings with the SEC. Litigation in general is often expensive and disruptive to normal business operations. We may face in the future allegations and lawsuits that we have infringed the intellectual property and other rights of third parties, including patents, privacy, trademarks, copyrights and other rights. Litigation, particularly intellectual property and class action matters may be protracted and expensive, and the results are difficult to predict. Adverse outcomes may result in significant settlement costs or judgments, including monetary damages, require us to modify our products and features while we develop non-infringing substitutes or require us to stop offering certain features.

From time-to-time, we may face claims against companies that incorporate open source software into their products, claiming ownership of, or demanding release of, the source code, the open source software and/or derivative works that were developed using such software, or otherwise seeking to enforce the terms of the applicable open source license. These claims could also result in litigation, require us to purchase a costly license or require us to devote additional research and development resources to change our solutions, any of which could have a negative effect on our business and operating results.

***Our success depends in large part upon our management and key personnel. Our inability to attract and retain these individuals could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.***

We are highly dependent on our management and other key employees. The skills, knowledge and experience of our management team, are critical to the growth of our business. In particular, Mr. Adam He, our Chief Executive Officer, provides significant leadership in every aspect of our business operations and strategic direction. Mr. He is supported by a talented group of knowledgeable executives in business operations, sales and marketing, and information technology including Megan Bozzuto, our Interim Chief Financial Officer, Russell Esquivel, Jr., our Chief Revenue Officer, and Chad Hoersten, our Chief Technology Officer. Our future performance will be dependent upon the continued successful service of members of our management and key employees. We do not maintain life insurance for any of the members of our management team or other key personnel. Competition for management in our industry is intense, and although we have entered into employment agreements with certain members of our management team, we may not be able to retain our management and key personnel or attract and retain new management and key personnel in the future, which could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.



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**Risks Related to Our Common Stock**

***Our significant stockholder and our directors and executive officers have substantial control over the Company and could limit your ability to influence the outcome of key transactions, including changes of control.***

Cosmic Forward Limited (“CFL”) beneficially owned approximately 14.8% of our common stock as of December 31, 2024. As a result of its ownership CFL is able to influence significantly all matters requiring approval by our stockholders, including the election of directors. In addition, our directors and executive officers and their affiliated entities, in the aggregate, beneficially own approximately 7.7% of our outstanding common stock as of December 31, 2024. Stockholders other than these principal stockholders may, therefore, have relatively little influence on decisions regarding such matters. These stockholders may have interests that differ from yours, and they may vote in a way with which you disagree and that may be averse to your interests. The concentration of ownership of our common stock may have the effect of delaying, preventing or deterring a change of control of our Company, could deprive our stockholders of an opportunity to receive a premium for their common stock as part of a sale of our Company and may affect the market price of our common stock. This concentration of ownership also limits the number of shares of stock likely to be traded in public markets and, therefore, will adversely affect liquidity in the trading of our common stock. This concentration of ownership of our common stock may also have the effect of influencing the completion of a change in control that may not necessarily be in the best interests of all of our stockholders.

***The market price for our securities may be subject to wide fluctuations and the value of an investment in our common stock may decline.***

The trading price of our common stock has been, and is likely to continue to be, volatile. Our closing stock price has ranged from \$4.00 to \$30.10 during the fiscal year of 2024. In addition to the factors discussed in this Annual Report, the trading price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly in response to numerous factors, many of which are beyond our control, including:

- price and volume fluctuations in the stock market, including as a result of trends in the economy as a whole or relating to companies in our industry;
- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our revenue, operating results or key metrics, including our number of members and unique visitors;

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- investor sentiment with respect to our competitors, our business partners and our industry in general;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant products or features, technical innovations, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or acquisitions;
- additional shares of our common stock being sold into the market by us or our existing stockholders or the anticipation of such sales; and
- other events or factors, including those resulting from war or incidents of terrorism, or responses to these events.

The securities of technology companies, especially Internet companies, have experienced wide fluctuations subsequent to their initial public offerings, including trading at prices below the initial public offering prices. Factors that could affect the price of our common stock include risk factors described in this section. In addition, the securities markets have from time-to-time experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that are not related to the operating performance of particular industries or companies. These market fluctuations may also have a material adverse effect on the market price of our common stock.

### ***Substantial future sales of shares of our common stock could cause the market price of our common stock to decline.***

The market price of our common stock could decline as a result of (i) substantial sales of our common stock, particularly sales by CFL and/or our directors, executive officers, employees, or other significant stockholders, (ii) a large number of shares of our common stock becoming available for sale, or (iii) the perception in the market that holders of a large number of shares intend to sell their shares. CFL has the right to require the Company to register public resale under a registration statement filed with the SEC. The eventual resale of some or all of such shares, or the perception that such sale or sales could be imminent, could result in a material decline in the market value of our common stock. In addition, sales of securities under our “shelf” registration statement, which allows for the issuance of shares of our common stock, preferred stock, rights, warrants, and units from time to time up to an aggregate amount of \$45,000,000, may cause the market price of our stock to decline.

In June 2023, we entered into a stock purchase agreement with Tumim Stone Capital LLC (“Tumim Stone”), under which we have the right, but not the obligation, to sell to Tumim Stone, and Tumim Stone is obligated to purchase, up to \$12,775,000 worth of newly issued shares of our common stock, subject to certain limitations and conditions and the satisfaction (or, where permissible, the waiver) of the conditions set forth in the stock purchase agreement. See the discussion in Part I, Item 7, “*Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation—Liquidity and Capital Resources*”, for more information about our committed equity line program with Tumim Stone and shares we have sold to date. The purchase price of shares that we sell to Tumim Stone under this agreement (other than the initial sale under that agreement) is 97% of the lowest daily average of the daily volume weighted average prices of our common stock for the three-day period prior to our election to sell shares. To the extent we utilize this equity line in the future by selling additional shares of common stock, the market price of our common stock may be adversely affected.

The Company’s 2013 Equity Compensation Plan (the “2013 Plan”) was adopted for the purpose of providing equity incentives to employees, officers, directors and consultants including options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights, other equity awards, annual incentive awards and dividend equivalents. Following amendments approved by the Company’s stockholders in June 2017, November 2018 and June 2021, the Company was authorized to issue 75,000 shares under the amended 2013 Plan.

In April 2023, the Board of Directors adopted a new equity incentive plan, the Professional Diversity Network, Inc. 2023 Equity Compensation Plan (the “2023 Equity Compensation Plan”). The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan was approved by our stockholders on June 15, 2023. The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan supersedes and replaces the 2013 Plan, and no new awards will be granted under the 2013 Plan. Any awards outstanding under the 2013 Plan remain subject to and will be paid under the 2013 Plan. The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan reserves 75,000 shares of common stock for issuance of awards to directors, officers, employees and qualifying consultants of the Company and its affiliates.

For more information about our equity compensation plans, please see Note 13 of our Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report.

### ***Anti-takeover provisions in our charter documents and under Delaware law could make an acquisition of our Company more difficult, limit attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management and limit the market price of our common stock.***

Provisions in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control or changes in our management. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws include provisions that:

- authorize our board of directors to issue, without further action by the stockholders, up to 1,000,000 shares of undesignated preferred stock;
- establish an advance notice procedure for stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting, including proposed nominations of persons for election to our board of directors, and also specify requirements as to the form and content of a stockholder’s notice;
- that our directors may be removed only for cause and only by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the total voting power of our outstanding capital stock, voting as a single class; and
- do not provide for cumulative voting rights (therefore allowing the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock voting in any election of directors to elect all of the directors standing for election, if they should so choose).

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These provisions may frustrate or prevent attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management by making it more difficult for stockholders to replace members of our board of directors, which is responsible for appointing the members of our management. In addition, because we are incorporated in Delaware, we are governed by the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which generally prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any of a broad range of business combinations with any “interested” stockholder for a period of three years following the date on which the stockholder became an “interested” stockholder. Finally, the substantial number of shares of common stock owned by CFL may make it more difficult for any third party to effect a change in control without CFL’s approval.

***We do not intend to pay dividends in the foreseeable future.***

We do not intend to declare or pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We anticipate that we will retain all of our future earnings for use in the development of our business and for general corporate purposes. Any determination to pay dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our board of directors. Accordingly, investors must rely on sales of their common stock after price appreciation, which may never occur, as the only way to realize any future gains on their investments.

***CFL holds participation rights and other rights that could affect our ability to raise funds.***

Under our stockholders agreement with CFL and each of its shareholders (collectively, the “CFL Shareholders”), we granted to CFL and the CFL Shareholders a participation right with respect to any future issuances of common stock by the Company, such that CFL and the CFL Shareholders may purchase an amount of shares necessary to maintain CFL’s then-current beneficial ownership interest, up to a maximum of 54.64% of our then-outstanding common stock, on a fully-diluted basis, subject to certain exceptions. This participation right could limit our ability to enter into equity financing and to raise funds from third parties.

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In connection with the stockholder's agreement with CFL and the CFL Shareholders, we also granted to CFL and the CFL Shareholders unlimited demand, shelf and piggyback registration rights, effective upon the expiration of CFL's initial lock-up period, to require us to effect a registration under the Securities Act of a resale of the shares of common stock held by CFL. This may create the perception of a large number of shares of our common stock becoming available for sale or the perception in the market that holders of a large number of shares intent to sell their shares, especially if CFL were to exercise its registration rights, thereby potentially further limiting our ability to enter into equity financings and to raise funds from third parties.

***Techniques employed by short sellers may drive down the market price of the Company's common stock.***

Short selling is the practice of selling securities that the seller does not own, but rather has borrowed from a third party with the intention of buying identical securities back at a later date to return to the lender. The short seller hopes to profit from a decline in the value of the securities between the sale of the borrowed securities and the purchase of the replacement shares, as the short seller expects to pay less in that purchase than it received in the sale. As it is, therefore, in the short seller's best interests for the price of the stock to decline, many short sellers (sometime known as "disclosed shorts") publish, or arrange for the publication of, negative opinions regarding the relevant issuer and its business prospects in order to create negative market momentum and generate profits for themselves after selling a stock short. While traditionally these disclosed shorts were limited in their ability to access mainstream business media or to otherwise create negative market rumors, the rise of the Internet and technological advancements regarding document creation, videotaping and publication by weblog ("blogging") have allowed many disclosed shorts to publicly attack a company's credibility, strategy and veracity by means of so-called research reports that mimic the type of investment analysis performed by large Wall Street firm and independent research analysts.

These short attacks have led to the selling of shares in the market, on occasion in large scale and broad base. Issuers who have limited trading volumes and are susceptible to higher volatility levels than U.S. domestic large-cap stocks can be particularly vulnerable to such short attacks.

Reports and information have been published about us which have occasionally been followed by a decline in our stock price. It is not clear what additional effects the negative publicity will have on the Company, if any, other than potentially affecting the market price of our common stock. Additionally, such allegations against the Company could negatively impact its business operations and stockholders' equity, and the value of any investment in the Company's stock could be reduced.

**ITEM 1B- UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM 1C- CYBERSECURITY**

*Cybersecurity Risk Management and Strategy*

We face various cyber risks, including, but not limited to, risks related to unauthorized access, misuse, data theft, computer viruses, system disruptions, ransomware, malicious software, and other intrusions. We utilize a multilayered, proactive approach, as part of our overall risk mitigation strategy, to identify, evaluate, mitigate, and prevent potential cyber and information security threats through our cybersecurity risk management efforts. Our management team engages certain outside advisors and consultants to assist in the identification, evaluation, and management of cybersecurity risks and controls. To oversee and identify risks from cybersecurity threats associated with our use of third-party service providers, we maintain third-party risk management efforts designed to help protect against the misuse of information technology and security breaches. We also maintain cyber insurance coverage; however, such insurance may not be sufficient in type or amount to cover us against claims related to security breaches, cyberattacks and other related breaches.

Our RemoteMore segment relies heavily on remote working with its customers and poses additional risks because contractors typically use their own devices in their work. RemoteMore has a number of policies in place to address these risks, including physical and electronic security measures, mandatory antivirus and antimalware software, multifactor authentication, a "principle of least privilege" policy that limits access only to what is needed for performing the employee's work tasks, and other measures

We have not, to date, identified any cybersecurity threats that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our business strategy, results of our operations, or financial condition.

*Cybersecurity Governance and Oversight*

Management is responsible for the cybersecurity risk management program as well as actions to identify, assess, mitigate, and remediate material issues. The Company's cybersecurity risk management program is supervised by our Chief Technology Officer (CTO), who reports directly to the Company's Chief Executive Officer. The CTO and his team are responsible for leading cybersecurity strategy, policy, standards, architecture, and processes.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is charged with oversight of cybersecurity matters and receives reports from the CTO on, among other things, the Company's cyber risks and threats, the status of projects to strengthen the Company's information security systems, and the emerging threat landscape. In accordance with our cyber incident response plan, the Audit Committee is promptly informed by management of cybersecurity incidents with the potential to materially adversely affect the Company or its information systems and is regularly updated about incidents with lesser impact potential. At least annually, the Board reviews and discusses the Company's technology strategy in combination with the Company's strategic objectives with Executive Management.

In an effort to detect and defend against cyber threats, the Company annually provides its employees with various cybersecurity and data protection training programs. These programs cover timely and relevant topics, including social engineering, phishing, password protection, confidential data protection, asset use and mobile security, and educate employees on the importance of reporting all incidents promptly.

**ITEM 2 - PROPERTIES**

We lease approximately 4,900 square feet of space for our headquarters in Chicago, Illinois under a lease that expires on September 30, 2027.

We believe that our current facilities are adequate to meet our current needs. We may expand our facilities or add new facilities as we add employees and enter new geographic markets, and we believe that suitable additional or alternative space will be available as needed to accommodate ongoing operations and any such growth. However, we expect to incur additional expenses in connection with such new or expanded facilities.

ITEM 3 - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

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We, and our wholly owned subsidiary, NAPW, Inc., are parties to a proceeding captioned Deborah Bayne, et al. vs. NAPW, Inc. and Professional Diversity Network, Inc., No. 18-cv-3591 (E.D.N.Y.), filed on June 20, 2018, and alleging violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act and certain provisions of the New York Labor Law. The class is defined as “all individuals employed in New York from June 20, 2012, through October 15, 2021, by NAPW and PDN to sell memberships to the women’s networking organization known as the National Association of Professional Women and the International Association of Women,” excluding corporate officers, shareholders, directors, and administrative employees. As it stands, the class currently consists of 164 putative class members and 60 opt-in plaintiffs.

The complaint alleges that NAPW (and PDN in its capacity as an alleged joint employer) violated similar provisions of the FLSA and the NYLL by (i) failing to pay overtime wages as required by both the FLSA and the NYLL, (ii) failing to provide accurate wage statements under the NYLL, and (iii) willfully violating both of those statutes. The Court, in an order issued on March 25, 2024, granted summary judgment against NAPW on the claims related to willful failure to pay overtime wages. The Court dismissed, without prejudice, claims based on failure to provide accurate wage statements under the NYLL based on lack of subject matter jurisdiction. The Court found that questions of fact remain as to whether PDN was a joint employer with NAPW. Damages remain unsettled particularly in light of the Court’s dismissal of the Plaintiff’s claims related to failure to provide accurate wage statements. During the first quarter of 2020, we recorded a \$450,000 litigation settlement reserve in the event of an unfavorable outcome in this proceeding. While the Plaintiff seeks damages substantially in excess of this reserve (including unpaid overtime, liquidated damages and penalties), NAPW and PDN continue to adamantly dispute the amount of damages claimed.

From time to time, we are involved in legal matters arising in the ordinary course of business. While we believe that such matters are currently not material, there can be no assurance that matters arising in the ordinary course of business for which we are, or could be, involved in litigation, will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

#### **ITEM 4 - MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable.

### **PART II**

#### **ITEM 5 - MARKET FOR REGISTRANT’S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**

##### **Listing**

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol “IPDN”.

##### **Holders**

As of March 31, 2025, we had 51 holders of record of our common stock. Since certain of our shares are held by brokers and other institutions on behalf of stockholders, the foregoing number is not representative of the number of beneficial owners of our common stock.

##### **Dividends**

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our capital stock. We currently intend to use the net proceeds from any offerings of our securities and our future earnings, if any, to finance the further development and expansion of our business and do not intend or expect to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Payment of future cash dividends, if any, will be at the discretion of our board of directors after taking into account various factors, including our financial condition, operating results, current and anticipated cash needs, outstanding indebtedness and plans for expansion and restrictions imposed by lenders, if any.

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## Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

Not applicable.

## ITEM 6 - [RESERVED]

## ITEM 7 - MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

*The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto in Item 8, "Financial Statements," in Part II of this Annual Report. This discussion contains forward-looking statements, which are based on our assumptions about the future of our business. Our actual results will likely differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements. Please read "Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" for additional information regarding forward-looking statements used in this Annual Report.*

### Overview

We are an operator of professional communities with a focus on diversity, employment, education and training. We use the term "diversity" (or "diverse") to describe communities, or "affinities," that are distinct based on a wide array of criteria, including ethnic, national, cultural, racial, religious or gender classification. We serve a variety of such communities, including Women, Hispanic Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, persons with disabilities, Military Professionals, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBTQ+).

We currently operate in three business segments. TalentAlly Network, our primary business segment, includes online professional job seeking communities with career resources tailored to the needs of various diverse cultural groups and employers looking to hire members of such groups. Our secondary business segment consists of the NAPW Network, a women-only professional networking organization. Our third business segment consists of RemoteMore, which connects companies with reliable, cost-efficient developers with less effort and friction, and empowers software developers to get meaningful jobs regardless of their location.

We believe that the combination of our solutions allows us to approach recruiting and professional networking in a unique way and thus create enhanced value for our members and customers by:

- Helping employers address their workforce diversity needs by connecting them with the right candidates from our diverse job seeking communities such as African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Veterans, individuals with disabilities and members of the LGBTQ+ community (with the ability to roll out to our other affinities);
- Providing a robust online and in-person network for our women members to make professional and personal connections; and
- Connecting companies with reliable, cost-efficient developers to meet their software needs.

### Sources of Revenue

We generate revenue from (i) paid membership subscriptions and related services, (ii) recruitment services, (iii) contracted software development, and (iv) consumer advertising and consumer marketing solutions. The following table sets forth our revenues from each significant product as a percentage of total revenue for the periods presented. The period-to-period comparison of financial results is not necessarily indicative of future results.

|                                              | Year Ended December 31, |       |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
|                                              | 2024                    | 2023  |
| Revenues:                                    |                         |       |
| Membership fees and related services         | 6.4%                    | 6.9%  |
| Recruitment services                         | 65.9%                   | 60.3% |
| Contracted software development              | 27.1%                   | 31.6% |
| Consumer advertising and marketing solutions | 0.6%                    | 1.2%  |

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**Membership Fees and Related Services.** We offer paid membership subscriptions through our NAPW Network, a women-only professional networking organization, operated by our wholly owned subsidiary. Members gain access to networking opportunities through a members-only website at [www.iawomen.com](http://www.iawomen.com) and “virtual” events which occur in a webcast setting, as well as through in-person networking local chapters nationwide, additional career and networking events such as the National Networking Summit Series, Power Networking Events and the TalentAlly Network events. NAPW members also receive ancillary (non-networking) benefits such as educational discounts, shopping, and other membership perks. The basic package is the Initiator level, which provides online benefits only. Upgrades to an Innovator membership include the Initiator benefits, as well as membership in local chapters, and access to live in-person events. The most comprehensive level, the Influencer, provides all the aforementioned benefits plus admission to exclusive “live” events and expanded opportunities for marketing and promotion, including the creation and distribution of a press release, which is prepared by professional writers and sent over major newswires. Additionally, all memberships offer educational programs with discounts or at no cost, based on the membership level. NAPW Membership is renewable, and fees are payable on an annual or monthly basis, with the first fee payable at the commencement of membership. We offer new purchasers of our NAPW memberships the opportunity to purchase a commemorative wall plaque at the time of purchase. They may purchase up to two plaques at that time.

**Recruitment Services.** We provide recruitment services through TalentAlly Network to medium and large employers seeking to diversify their employment ranks. Our recruitment services include recruitment advertising, job postings, contingent search and hiring, and career fairs. The majority of recruitment services revenue comes from job recruitment advertising. We also offer to businesses subject to the regulations and requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity Office of Federal Contract Compliance Program (“**OFCCP**”) our OFCCP compliance product, which combines diversity recruitment advertising with job postings and compliance services.

**Contracted Software Development.** RemoteMore generates revenue by providing contracted programmers to assist customers with their software solutions through customized software development.

**Consumer Advertising and Marketing Solutions.** We work with partner organizations to provide them with integrated job boards on their websites, which offer their members or customers the ability to post recruitment advertising and job openings. We generate revenue from fees charged for those postings.

**Cost of Revenue**

Cost of revenue primarily consists of costs of producing job fair and other events, revenue-sharing with partner organizations, costs of web hosting and operating our websites for the TalentAlly Network. The cost of hosting member conferences and local chapter meetings are also included in the cost of revenue for NAPW Network. Costs of paying outside developers are included in the cost of revenue for RemoteMore.

|                    | Year Ended December 31, |       |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------|
|                    | 2024                    | 2023  |
| Cost of revenues:  |                         |       |
| TalentAlly Network | 39.2%                   | 31.7% |
| NAPW Network       | 0.6%                    | 4.5%  |
| RemoteMore         | 60.2%                   | 63.8% |



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**Results of Operations**

**Revenues**

**Total Revenues**

The following tables set forth our revenues for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023:

|                                              | Year Ended December 31, |                 | Change          | Change         |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                                              | 2024                    | 2023            | (Dollars)       | (Percent)      |
|                                              | (in thousands)          |                 |                 |                |
| <b>Revenues:</b>                             |                         |                 |                 |                |
| Membership fees and related services         | \$ 429                  | \$ 531          | \$ (102)        | (19.2)%        |
| Recruitment services                         | 4,434                   | 4,640           | (206)           | (4.4)%         |
| Contracted software development              | 1,830                   | 2,437           | (607)           | (24.9)%        |
| Consumer advertising and marketing solutions | 38                      | 91              | (53)            | (58.2)%        |
| Total revenues                               | <u>\$ 6,731</u>         | <u>\$ 7,699</u> | <u>\$ (968)</u> | <u>(12.6)%</u> |

Total revenues decreased approximately \$968,432, or 12.6% from \$7,699,037 for the year ended December 31, 2023 to \$6,730,605 for the year ended December 31, 2024. The decrease was predominately attributable to a decrease of approximately \$607,000 of contracted software development related to RemoteMore operations as compared to the same period in the prior year. Also contributing to the decrease was a decrease in recruitment service revenues related to TalentALLY Network operations of approximately \$259,000, and an approximate \$102,000 decrease in membership fees and related services revenues related to NAPW operations, as compared to the same period in the prior year.

**Revenues by Segment**

The following table sets forth each operating segment's revenues for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023:

|                    | Year Ended December 31, |                 | Change          | Change         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                    | 2024                    | 2023            | (Dollars)       | (Percent)      |
|                    | (in thousands)          |                 |                 |                |
| TalentALLY Network | \$ 4,472                | \$ 4,731        | \$ (259)        | (5.5)%         |
| NAPW Network       | 429                     | 531             | (102)           | (19.2)%        |
| RemoteMore         | 1,830                   | 2,437           | (607)           | (24.9)%        |
| Total revenues     | <u>\$ 6,731</u>         | <u>\$ 7,699</u> | <u>\$ (968)</u> | <u>(12.6)%</u> |

During the year ended December 31, 2024, our TalentALLY Network generated approximately \$4,472,000 in revenues compared to \$4,731,000 in revenues during the year ended December 31, 2023, a decrease of approximately \$259,000 or 5.5%. The decrease was primarily due to decreases in e-commerce revenues of approximately \$185,000, revenues related to sales by our third-party partner alliance of approximately \$144,000, event sales revenue of approximately \$192,000 and other and partner sales revenues of approximately \$53,000, compared to the same period in the prior year. Partially offsetting the decreases was an increase in PDN direct sales revenues of approximately \$315,000, compared to the same period in the prior year.

During the year ended December 31, 2024, NAPW Network revenues were approximately \$429,000, compared to revenues of \$531,000 during the year ended December 31, 2023, a decrease of approximately \$102,000 or 19.2%. The decrease in revenues was primarily due to an approximate \$86,000 decrease in renewal membership and an approximate \$23,000 decrease in partner sales and other revenue, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Partially offsetting the decreases was an increase in new membership revenues of approximately \$7,000, compared to the same period in the prior year.

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During the year ended December 31, 2024, RemoteMore revenue was approximately \$1,830,000, compared to revenues of approximately \$2,437,000 during the same period in the prior year, a decrease of approximately \$607,000. The decrease was predominantly attributable to a reduction in demand for contracted software development.

**Costs and Expenses**

The following tables set forth our costs and expenses for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023:

|                               | Year Ended December 31, |                  | Change<br>(Dollars) | Change<br>(Percent) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                               | 2024                    | 2023             |                     |                     |
|                               | (in thousands)          |                  |                     |                     |
| Cost and expenses:            |                         |                  |                     |                     |
| Cost of revenues              | \$ 2,646                | \$ 3,461         | \$ (815)            | (23.5)%             |
| Sales and marketing           | 2,752                   | 3,701            | (949)               | (25.6)%             |
| General and administrative    | 3,534                   | 4,452            | (918)               | (20.6)%             |
| Depreciation and amortization | 204                     | 624              | (420)               | (67.3)%             |
| Total cost and expenses:      | <u>\$ 9,136</u>         | <u>\$ 12,238</u> | <u>\$ (3,102)</u>   | <u>(25.3)%</u>      |

Total costs and expenses decreased for the year ended December 31, 2024, to approximately \$9,136,000 compared to \$12,238,000 for the year ended December 31, 2023. The approximate \$3,102,000, or 25.3%, decrease in costs and expenses was primarily attributable to the following:

- The decrease in cost of revenues of approximately \$815,000, as compared to the prior year, is predominately a result of decrease in payroll related costs of approximately \$52,000, a decrease of approximately \$574,000 related to RemoteMore contractor expenses, which is a result of the aforementioned decrease in RemoteMore revenues, a decrease of approximately \$72,000 in event service costs, a decrease of approximately \$68,000 of member benefits expenses related to NAPW operations, and a decrease of approximately \$49,000 in other costs of revenues.
- The decrease in sales and marketing expense of approximately \$949,000, as compared to the prior year, is a result of decrease in payroll related costs of approximately \$365,000, a decrease of approximately \$383,000 related to marketing and marketing related consulting costs, and a decrease of approximately \$201,000 in other purchased services.
- The decrease in general and administrative expenses of approximately \$918,000, as compared to the prior year, is a result of decrease in payroll related costs of approximately \$699,000 via the efforts of combining corporate positions and related benefit charges, a decrease of approximately \$83,000 related to insurance costs, a decrease of approximately \$38,000 related to legal costs, a decrease of approximately \$20,000 related to travel costs, a decrease of approximately \$25,000 related to computer and software costs, and a decrease of approximately \$53,000 in other general and administrative costs.
- The decrease in depreciation and amortization of approximately \$420,000, as compared to the prior year. The decrease was primarily attributable to approximately \$400,000 of amortization expense related to Expo Experts intangible assets, for which there were no comparable expenses in the current period, and a decrease of approximately \$20,000 related to NAPW intangible assets, as compared to the same period in the prior year.

**Costs and Expenses by Segment**

The following table sets forth each operating segment's costs and expenses for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023:

|                          | Year Ended December 31, |                  | Change<br>(Dollars) | Change<br>(Percent) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                          | 2024                    | 2023             |                     |                     |
|                          | (in thousands)          |                  |                     |                     |
| TalentAlly Network       | \$ 4,514                | \$ 6,216         | \$ (1,702)          | (27.4)%             |
| NAPW Network             | 574                     | 962              | (388)               | (40.3)%             |
| RemoteMore               | 2,144                   | 2,719            | (575)               | (21.1)%             |
| Corporate Overhead       | 1,904                   | 2,341            | (437)               | (18.7)%             |
| Total cost and expenses: | <u>\$ 9,136</u>         | <u>\$ 12,238</u> | <u>\$ (3,102)</u>   | <u>(25.3)%</u>      |

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Costs and expenses related to our TalentAlly Network decreased approximately \$1,702,000 or 27.4%, during the year ended December 31, 2024, as compared to the prior year. The decrease is primarily a result of reductions of approximately \$60,000 related to costs of revenues, \$840,000 of sales and marketing costs, \$404,000 of general and administrative costs, and \$398,000 related to depreciation and amortization.

Costs and expenses related to the NAPW Network decreased approximately \$388,000, or 40.3%, during the year ended December 31, 2024, as compared to the prior year. The decrease is primarily a result of reductions of approximately \$80,000 related to costs of revenues, \$147,000 of sales and marketing costs, \$138,000 of general and administrative costs, and \$23,000 related to depreciation and amortization.

Cost and expenses related to RemoteMore decreased approximately \$575,000, or 21.1%, during the year ended December 31, 2024, as compared to the prior year, predominantly consisting of decreases in contractor costs of approximately \$574,000, and \$1,000 related to other purchased services.

Corporate overhead expenses decreased approximately \$437,000 or 18.7% during the year December 31, 2024, as compared to the prior year. The decrease is predominantly a result of reduction of \$481,000 in payroll and bonus related costs and \$40,000 in legal costs. Partially offsetting the decrease were increases in costs of approximately \$62,000 related to filing costs, and \$22,000 in other corporation expenses.

**Income Tax Expenses (Benefit)**

|                               | Year Ended December 31, |          | Change<br>(Dollars) | Change<br>(Percent) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                               | 2024                    | 2023     |                     |                     |
|                               | (in thousands)          |          |                     |                     |
| Income tax expenses (benefit) | \$ 6                    | \$ (139) | \$ 145              | 104.3%              |

During the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, we recorded income tax expenses of approximately \$6,000 and a benefit for income tax of approximately \$139,000.

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**Net Loss from Continuing Operations**

The following table sets forth each operating segment's net income or loss for the periods presented. The period-to-period comparison is not necessarily indicative of future results.

|                                                  | Year Ended December 31, |                   | Change          | Change       |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|                                                  | 2024                    | 2023              | (Dollars)       | (Percent)    |
|                                                  | (in thousands)          |                   |                 |              |
| TalentAlly Network                               | \$ (229)                | \$ (1,430)        | \$ 1,201        | 84.0%        |
| NAPW Network                                     | (146)                   | (414)             | 268             | 64.7%        |
| RemoteMore                                       | (316)                   | (277)             | (39)            | (14.1)%      |
| Corporate Overhead                               | (1,904)                 | (2,265)           | 361             | 15.9%        |
| Consolidated net loss from continuing operations | <u>\$ (2,595)</u>       | <u>\$ (4,386)</u> | <u>\$ 1,791</u> | <u>40.8%</u> |

*Consolidated Net Loss from Continuing Operations.* As the result of the factors discussed above, during the year ended December 31, 2024, we incurred a net loss of approximately \$2,595,000 from continuing operations, an decrease in net loss of approximately \$1,791,000 or 40.8% from a net loss of \$4,386,000 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

**Non-GAAP Financial Measure**

*Adjusted EBITDA*

We believe Adjusted EBITDA provides a meaningful representation of our operating performance that provides useful information to investors regarding our financial condition and results of operations. Adjusted EBITDA is commonly used by financial analysts and others to measure operating performance. Furthermore, management believes that this non-GAAP financial measure may provide investors with additional meaningful comparisons between current results and results of prior periods as they are expected to be reflective of our core ongoing business. However, while we consider Adjusted EBITDA to be an important measure of operating performance, Adjusted EBITDA and other non-GAAP financial measures have limitations, and investors should not consider them in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. Further, Adjusted EBITDA, as we define it, may not be comparable to EBITDA, or similarly titled measures, as defined by other companies.

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The following table provides a reconciliation of net loss from continuing operations to Adjusted EBITDA for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, the most directly comparable GAAP measure as reported in the consolidated financial statements:

|                                              | Year Ended December 31, |            |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
|                                              | 2024                    | 2023       |
|                                              | (in thousands)          |            |
| <b>Loss from Continuing Operations</b>       | \$ (2,595)              | \$ (4,386) |
| Share-based compensation                     | 175                     | 300        |
| Loss attributable to noncontrolling interest | 84                      | 103        |
| Depreciation and amortization                | 204                     | 624        |
| Other income (expense)                       | 184                     | (13)       |
| Income tax expense (benefit)                 | 6                       | (139)      |
| <b>Adjusted EBITDA</b>                       | \$ (1,942)              | \$ (3,511) |

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The following table summarizes our liquidity and capital resources as of December 31, 2024, and 2023:

|                                                             | As of December 31, |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
|                                                             | 2024               | 2023       |
|                                                             | (in thousands)     |            |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>                            | \$ 1,731           | \$ 628     |
| <b>Working capital (deficit) from continuing operations</b> | \$ 271             | \$ (1,107) |

As of December 31, 2024, we had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$1,731,000 compared to cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$628,000 at December 31, 2023. Our principal sources of liquidity are our cash and cash equivalents, including net proceeds from the the issuances of common stock. As of December 31, 2024, we had a working capital from continuing operations of approximately \$271,000, compared to a working capital deficit from continuing operations of approximately \$1,107,000 as of December 31, 2023. We had an accumulated deficit of approximately \$102,415,000 at December 31, 2024. During the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, we generated a net loss from continuing operations, net of tax, of approximately \$2,595,000 and \$4,386,000 and used cash from continuing operations of approximately \$2,501,000 and \$3,009,000.

During 2024, we continued our focus on cost cutting initiatives and improving our overall profitability and shareholder value through new sales and marketing initiatives and through strategic business collaborations. However, we have continued to generate negative cash flows from operations, and we expect to incur net losses for the short-term foreseeable future. These conditions raise substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. Our ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on our ability to further implement our business plan of increased sales and market share through the generation of organic growth in revenues from our existing operating segments, raise capital, and make strategic acquisitions. The consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might be necessary if we are unable to continue as a going concern.

In January 2023, the Company exercised our option to purchase an additional 20% interest in RemoteMore for \$116,667, and in May 2023, the Company acquired an additional 7% interest in RemoteMore for approximately \$235,000 furthering our interest in RemoteMore to 72.62%.

In January 2023, through a newly formed wholly-owned subsidiary, the Company purchased the assets and operations of Expo Experts, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company, for a total consideration of \$600,000 funded by the payment of \$400,000 in cash and the issuance of restricted shares of PDN common stock valued at \$200,000 based on the volume weighted-average price as of twenty (20) days prior to the closing date.

In March 2023, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Yiran Gu, a former investor of the Company and a citizen of the People's Republic of China, in connection with the purchase by Yiran Gu of 33,318 shares of our common stock at a price of approximately \$21.00 per share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$700,000.

In June 2023, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Tumim Stone Capital LLC ("Tumim Stone"). Under the terms and subject to the conditions of the stock purchase agreement, we have the right, but not the obligation, to sell to Tumim Stone, and Tumim Stone is obligated to purchase, up to \$12,775,000 worth of newly issued shares (the "Purchase Shares") of our common stock, subject to certain limitations and the satisfaction (or, where permissible, the waiver) of the conditions set forth in the stock purchase agreement. Pursuant to the stock purchase agreement, we issued and sold 46,993 Purchase Shares to Tumim Stone, at a price of \$42.56 per share (representing the average official closing price of the common stock on The Nasdaq Capital Market for the five consecutive trading days ending on the trading day immediately prior to the date of the stock purchase agreement), for aggregate gross proceeds to the Company of \$2,000,000, in an initial purchase (the "Initial Purchase"). Pursuant to the terms of the stock purchase agreement, as consideration for Tumim Stone's commitment to purchase shares of common stock at our direction from time to time, subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in the stock purchase agreement, upon execution of the stock purchase agreement on September 30, 2023, we also issued to Tumim Stone 17,622 shares of common stock (the "Commitment Shares"), valued at \$42.56 per share (the same per share value as each Initial Purchase Share sold in the Initial Purchase), or a total aggregate value equal to \$750,000 for the Commitment Shares. Thereafter, the purchase price of shares that we sell to Tumim Stone under this agreement (other than initial sale under that agreement) is 97% of the lowest daily average of the daily volume weighted average prices of our common stock for the three day period prior to our election to sell shares.

In December 2023, the Company issued multiple purchase notices to Tumim Stone under the stock purchase agreement, through which we sold a combined 27,334 shares of our common stock at an average price of \$17.00 for an aggregated gross proceeds of approximately \$464,300.

In December 2023, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with CFL, in which we sold 12,267 shares of our common stock at a price per share of \$16.30 for gross proceeds of approximately \$200,000.

In the first quarter of 2024, the Company issued 4,022 shares of its common stock to Tumim Stone Capital in connection with its committed equity line program, at a price of approximately \$23.60 per share, resulting in aggregate gross proceeds of \$95,104. In the second quarter of 2024, the Company issued 18,467 shares of its common stock to Tumim Stone Capital in connection with its committed equity line program, at a price range of approximately \$12.70 to \$15.60 per share, resulting in aggregate gross proceeds of \$239,885. In the third quarter of 2024, there was no common stock issuance to Tumim Stone Capital. In the fourth quarter of 2024, the Company issued 5,643 shares of its common stock to Tumim Stone Capital in connection with its committed equity line program, at a price range of approximately \$8.30 per share, resulting in aggregate gross proceeds of \$46,728.

In June, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Eighty-eight Investment LLC, a Delaware limited liability company wholly owned and controlled by Mr. Xin He, our Chief Executive Officer. This purchase of 100,000 shares of our common stock at a price of \$4.95 per share provided aggregate proceeds of

\$495,000. The purchase price represented the last consolidated closing bid price on the Nasdaq Capital Market prior to the execution of the agreement, in accordance with the requirements of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635(c) and applicable Nasdaq interpretations.

In September, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Yu Tian, an individual and a resident of the People’s Republic of China, in connection with the purchase by Yu Tian of 39,867 shares of common stock at a price of approximately \$3.01 per share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$120,000.

In November, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with a single institutional investor (the “Investor”), in connection with the purchase by the Investor of 140,000 shares of common stock, and 110,000 pre-funded warrants to purchase Common Stock (the “Pre-Funded Warrants”) in a registered direct offering (the “Offering”) at a price of \$8.00 per share (or \$7.90 per Pre-Funded Warrant) for aggregate gross proceeds of \$1,989,000.

In December 2024, the Company entered into a Profit Participation Agreement with Koala Malta Limited, a private limited liability company registered under the laws of Malta to purchase a 6% right in QBSG Limited to receive all distributions and dividends which may be declared and/or distributed by the QBSG Limited on an annual basis in terms of applicable law, along with all rights, title, and interest from the Koala Malta Limited. The consideration of the Profit Participation is \$1,200,000, including \$700,000 cash and \$500,000 value of the Company’s common stocks, or a total of 113,636 shares at a price of \$4.40 per share. In addition to the 9% share purchase from the Seller in September 2022, the Company now owns the right to receive 15% of all distributions and dividends by QBSG Limited.

In December, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Aurous Vertex Limited (the “Investor”), a British Virgin Islands company, in connection with the purchase by the Investor of 250,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$6.00 per share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$1.5 million. In the agreement, Aurous Vertex Limited has an option to purchase an additional 100,000 shares of Common Stock at a subsequent closing. The purchase price per share of the additional 100,000 shares of Common Stock will be the lesser of (a) \$6.00 per share and (b) the closing price of the Common Stock on the date that Investor delivers its written notice to the Company of its election to purchase the Second Closing Shares as described above.

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While we believe that our cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$1,731,000, at December 31, 2024, and cash flow from operations, may be sufficient to meet our working capital requirements for the fiscal year 2025, our available funds and cash flow from operations may not be sufficient to meet our working capital requirements without the need to increase revenues or raise capital by the issuance of common stock. There can be no assurances that our business plans and actions will be successful, that we will generate anticipated revenues, or that unforeseen circumstances will not require additional funding sources in the future or effectuate plans to conserve liquidity. Future efforts to raise additional funds may not be successful or they may not be available on acceptable terms, if at all. Cash and cash equivalents consist primarily of cash on deposit with banks and investments in money market funds.

Our TalentAlly Network sells recruitment services to employers, generally on a one-year contract basis. This revenue is also deferred and recognized over the life of the contract. Our payment terms for TalentAlly Network customers range from 30 to 60 days. We consider the difference between the payment terms and payment receipts a result of transit time for invoice and payment processing and to date have not experienced any liquidity issues as a result of the payments extending past the specified terms. Our NAPW network collects membership fees generally at the commencement of the membership term or at renewal periods thereafter. The memberships we sell are for one year and we defer recognition of the revenue from membership sales and renewals and recognize it ratably over the twelve-month period.

|                                                                   | Year Ended December 31, |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
|                                                                   | 2024                    | 2023       |
|                                                                   | (in thousands)          |            |
| Cash (used in) provided by continued operations                   |                         |            |
| Operating activities                                              | \$ (2,501)              | \$ (3,009) |
| Investing activities                                              | (963)                   | (947)      |
| Financing activities                                              | 4,568                   | 3,364      |
| Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents | -                       | -          |
| Cash (used in) provided by discontinued operations                |                         |            |
| Operating activities                                              | -                       | (17)       |
| Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents              | \$ 1,104                | \$ (609)   |

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Company considers cash and cash equivalents to include all short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and have original maturities of three months or less.

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**Net Cash Used in Operating Activities**

Net cash used in operating activities from continuing operations during the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$2,501,000. We had a net loss from continuing operations of \$2,595,000 during the year ended December 31, 2024, which included share-based compensation expense of \$175,000 and depreciation and amortization expense of \$204,000, the provision for losses on accounts receivable of approximately \$14,000, and noncash lease expense of \$91,000. Changes in operating assets and liabilities provided approximately \$577,000 of cash decrease during the year ended December 31, 2024, consisting primarily of a \$99,000 increase in accounts receivable, which was partially offset by an approximate \$159,000 decrease in prepaid expenses and other assets, \$369,000 decrease in accounts payable, and a \$158,000 decrease in deferred revenues, \$106,000 decrease in lease liability, and \$4,000 decrease in accrued expenses.

Net cash used in operating activities from continuing operations during the year ended December 31, 2023 was \$3,009,000. We had a net loss from continuing operations of \$4,386,000 during the year ended December 31, 2023, which included share-based compensation expense of \$300,000 and depreciation and amortization expense of \$624,000, predominately due to amortization of intangible assets related to the acquisition of Expo Experts, reduction for the allowance for credit losses of approximately \$16,000, accretion for the extinguishment of liabilities related to discontinued operations of approximately \$157,000, and noncash lease expense of \$91,000. Changes in operating assets and liabilities provided approximately \$363,000 of cash during the year ended December 31, 2023, consisting primarily of a \$186,000 increase in accounts payable, a \$200,000 increase in accounts receivable, a \$279,000 increase in prepaid expenses, and a \$6,000 increase in deferred revenues, which was partially offset by an approximate \$204,000 decrease in accrued liabilities and \$104,000 in lease liability.

**Net Cash Used in Investing Activities**

Net cash used in investing activities from continuing operations during the year ended December 31, 2024 was approximately \$963,000, which consisted primarily of \$700,000 related to the purchase of QBSG Limited's profit share, approximately \$242,000 in costs associated with internally developed technology and approximately \$21,000 associated with the purchases of computer equipment. During the year ended December 31, 2023, net cash used in investing activities from continuing operations was approximately \$947,000, which consisted primarily of \$400,000 related to the acquisition of Expo Experts, approximately \$335,000 related to the acquisition of additional interest in RemoteMore, approximately \$181,000 in costs associated with internally developed technology and approximately \$30,000 associated with the purchases of computer equipment.

**Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities**

Net cash provided by financing activities from continuing operations during the year ended December 31, 2024, was approximately \$4,568,000, which reflected the proceeds from the sale of common stock, and noncontrolling Interests as described above.

Net cash provided by financing activities from continuing operations during the year ended December 31, 2023, was approximately \$3,364,000, which reflected the proceeds from the sale of common stock as described above.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

Since inception, we have not engaged in any off-balance sheet activities as defined in Regulation S-K Item 303(a)(4).

**Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based on our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, or U.S. GAAP. The preparation of these consolidated financial statements requires us to exercise considerable judgment with respect to establishing sound accounting policies and in making estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of our assets and liabilities, our recognition of revenues and expenses, and disclosure of commitments and contingencies at the date of the consolidated financial statements.

Management conducts an annual review of the fair value of the company's Level 3 investments. The valuation methodologies employed rely on significant unobservable inputs, including projected cash flows, applicable discount rates, market data from publicly traded companies within the relevant industry, and information derived from recent merger and acquisition activity. These inputs are evaluated to ensure the fair value measurements reflect current market conditions and provide a reasonable basis for financial reporting.

We base our estimates on our historical experience, knowledge of our business and industry, current and expected economic conditions, the attributes of our products, the regulatory environment, and in certain cases, the results of outside appraisals. We periodically re-evaluate our estimates and assumptions with respect to these judgments and modify our approach when circumstances indicate that modifications are necessary. These estimates and assumptions form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.



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While we believe that the factors we evaluate provide us with a meaningful basis for establishing and applying sound accounting policies, we cannot guarantee that the results will always be accurate. Since the determination of these estimates requires the exercise of judgment, actual results could differ from such estimates.

While our significant accounting policies are more fully described in Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements included at the end of this Annual Report, we believe that the following accounting policies are the most critical to aid you in fully understanding and evaluating our reported financial results and affect the more significant judgments and estimates that we use in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

***Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Credit Losses***

Our accounts receivable consists principally of uncollateralized amounts billed to customers. These receivables are generally due within 30 to 90 days of the period in which the corresponding sales occur and do not bear interest. They are recorded at net realizable value less an allowance for credit losses and are classified as account receivable, net on the consolidated balance sheets.

We adopted ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments - Credit Losses, in the first quarter of fiscal 2023. This accounting standard requires companies to measure expected credit losses on financial instruments based on the total estimated amount to be collected over the lifetime of the instrument. Prior to the adoption of this accounting standard, we recorded incurred loss reserves against receivable balances based on current and historical information.

We consider both current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts of future conditions when evaluating expected credit losses for uncollectible receivable balances. In our determination of the allowance for credit losses, we pool receivables by days outstanding and apply an expected credit loss percentage to each pool. The expected credit loss percentage is determined using historical loss data adjusted for current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions. Current conditions considered include predefined aging criteria, as well as specified events that indicate the balance due is not collectible. Reasonable and supportable forecasts used in determining the probability of future collection consider publicly available macroeconomic data and whether future credit losses are expected to differ from historical losses.

We are not party to any off-balance sheet arrangements that would require an allowance for credit losses in accordance with this accounting standard.

***Goodwill and Intangible Assets***

The Company accounts for goodwill and intangible assets in accordance with ASC 350, Intangibles – Goodwill and Other (“ASC 350”). ASC 350 requires that goodwill and other intangibles with indefinite lives should be tested for impairment annually or on an interim basis if events or circumstances indicate that the fair value of an asset has decreased below its carrying value.

Goodwill is tested for impairment at the reporting unit level on an annual basis (December 31 for the Company) and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value. The Company considers its market capitalization and the carrying value of its assets and liabilities, including goodwill, when performing its goodwill impairment test.

When conducting its annual goodwill impairment assessment, the Company initially performs a qualitative evaluation of whether it is more likely than not that goodwill is impaired. If it is determined by a qualitative evaluation that it is more likely than not that goodwill is impaired, the Company then compares the fair value of the Company’s reporting unit to its carrying or book value. If the fair value of the reporting unit exceeds its carrying value, goodwill is not impaired and the Company is not required to perform further testing. If the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the Company will measure any goodwill impairment losses as the amount by which the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, not to exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit.

***Capitalized Technology Costs***

We account for capitalized technology costs in accordance with ASC 350-40, Internal-Use Software (“ASC 350-40”). In accordance with ASC 350-40, we capitalize certain external and internal computer software costs incurred during the application development stage. The application development stage generally includes software design and configuration, coding, testing and installation activities. Training and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred, while upgrades and enhancements are capitalized if it is probable that such expenditures will result in additional functionality. Capitalized software costs are amortized over the estimated useful lives of the software assets on a straight-line basis, generally not exceeding three years.

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## ***Business Combinations***

ASC 805, Business Combinations ("ASC 805"), applies the acquisition method of accounting for business combinations to all acquisitions where the acquirer gains a controlling interest, regardless of whether consideration was exchanged. ASC 805 establishes principles and requirements for how the acquirer : a) recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree; b) recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase; and c) determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. Accounting for acquisitions requires the Company to recognize, separately from goodwill, the assets acquired, and the liabilities assumed at their acquisition-date fair values. Goodwill as of the acquisition date is measured as the excess of consideration transferred and the net of the acquisition-date fair values of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed. While the Company uses its best estimates and assumptions to accurately value assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the acquisition date, the estimates are inherently uncertain and subject to refinement. As a result, during the measurement period, which may be up to one year from the acquisition date, the Company may record adjustments to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed with the corresponding offset to goodwill. Upon the conclusion of the measurement period or final determination of the values of assets acquired or liabilities assumed, whichever comes first, any subsequent adjustments are recorded to the consolidated statements of comprehensive loss.

## ***Revenue Recognition***

Our principal sources of revenue are recruitment revenue, consumer marketing and consumer advertising revenue, membership subscription fees, and contracted software development. Recruitment revenue includes revenue recognized from direct sales to customers for recruitment services and events, as well as revenue from our direct ecommerce sales. Revenues from recruitment services are recognized when the services are performed, evidence of an arrangement exists, the fee is fixed or determinable and collectability is probable. Our recruitment revenue is derived from agreements through single and multiple job postings, recruitment media, talent recruitment communities, basic and premier corporate memberships, hiring campaign marketing and advertising, e-newsletter marketing and research and outreach services.

Consumer marketing and consumer advertising revenue is recognized either based upon a fixed-fee for revenue-sharing agreements in which payment is required at the time of posting or billed based upon the number of impressions (the number of times an advertisement is displayed) recorded on the websites as specified in the customer agreement.

Revenue generated from NAPW Network membership subscriptions is recognized ratably over the 12-month membership period, although members pay their annual fees at the commencement of the membership period. We also offer monthly membership for which we collect fees on a monthly basis and we recognize revenue in the same month as the fees are collected. Revenue from related membership services is derived from fees for development and set-up of a member's personal on-line profile and/or press release announcements. Fees related to these services are recognized as revenue at the time the on-line profile is complete and press release is distributed.

Revenues generated from RemoteMore consist of contracts entered into to provide customers with software solutions and are recognized in the month work is performed.

## ***Revenue Concentration***

We, in alliance with another company, partner to sell two recruitment services products. This alliance member previously built, hosted, and managed our job boards and website in addition to billing customers, collecting fees, and providing customer services. For the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, we recorded approximately 4.6% and 8.1% of our recruitment services revenue from this alliance sales relationship.

## ***Lease Obligations***

We leases office space under a non-cancelable operating lease that expires through September 2027. Our facility lease provides for periodic rent increases and may contain escalation clauses and renewal options. Our lease terms include options to extend the lease if we are reasonably certain of being exercised.

We recognizes operating lease expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term and variable lease payments are expensed as incurred. Lease costs are primarily recorded within SG&A expenses in the Company's consolidated statements of loss and comprehensive loss.

We determine if a contract contains a lease at lease inception. If the borrowing rate implicit in the lease is not determinable, we use its incremental borrowing rate ("IBR") based on information available at lease commencement including prevailing financial market conditions to determine the present value of future lease payments. We have elected the option to combine lease and non-lease components as a single component for our entire population of lease assets.

Operating lease assets and lease liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date. Operating lease liabilities represent the present value of lease payments not yet paid. Operating lease assets represent the right to use an underlying asset and are based upon the operating lease liabilities adjusted for prepayments or accrued lease payments, initial direct costs, and lease incentives. We have elected not to apply the recognition requirements to short-term leases of 12 months or less and instead recognizes lease payments as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Our lease agreement does not contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants. Leased assets are presented net of accumulated amortization.

Variable lease payment amounts that cannot be determined at the commencement of the lease, such as increases in lease payments based on changes in index rates or usage, are not included in the ROU assets or liabilities; instead, these are expensed as incurred and recorded as variable lease expense.

## **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

See Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements.

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**Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This Annual Report on Form 10-K, including Part I, Item 1. “*Business*” and Part II, Item 7. “*Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*,” contains “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements concern expectations, beliefs, projections, plans and strategies, anticipated events or trends and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. Specifically, this Annual Report contains forward-looking statements regarding:

- our beliefs regarding our ability to capture and capitalize on market trends;
- our expectations on the future growth and financial health of the online diversity recruitment industry and the industry participants, and the drivers of such growth;
- our expectations regarding continued membership growth;
- our beliefs regarding the increased value derived from the synergies among our segments; and
- our beliefs regarding our liquidity requirements, the availability of cash and capital resources to fund our business in the future and intended use of liquidity.

These and other forward-looking statements reflect our current views about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions. We wish to caution readers that certain important factors may have affected, and could in the future affect, our actual results and could cause actual results to differ significantly from those expressed in any forward-looking statement. The most important factors that could prevent us from achieving our goals, and cause the assumptions underlying forward-looking statements and the actual results to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by those forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- our ability to raise funds in the future to support operations;
- failure to realize synergies and other financial benefits from mergers and acquisitions within expected time frames, including increases in expected costs or difficulties related to integration of merger and acquisition partners;
- inability to identify and successfully negotiate and complete additional combinations with potential merger or acquisition partners;
- our history of operating losses;
- our limited operating history in a new and unproven market;
- increasing competition in the market for online professional networks;
- our ability to comply with increasing governmental regulation and other legal obligations related to privacy;
- our ability to adapt to changing technologies and social trends and preferences;
- our ability to attract and retain a sales and marketing team, management and other key personnel and the ability of that team to execute on the Company’s business strategies and plans;
- our ability to obtain and maintain intellectual property protection for our intellectual property;
- the outcome of current or future litigation regarding our business, including intellectual property claims;
- general and economic business conditions; and
- legal and regulatory developments, including those affecting the market for services focused on the promotion of workplace diversity and other services we provide.

Additional factors, risks and uncertainties that may affect our results, are discussed in Item 1A. “*Risk Factors*” of this Annual Report beginning on page 13, and in our subsequent filings with the SEC. You should consider these factors, risks and uncertainties when evaluating any forward-looking statements and you should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement. Forward-looking statements represent our views as of the date of this Annual Report, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect the impact of circumstances or events that arise after the date of this Annual Report.

**ITEM 7A - QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

We are a smaller reporting company as defined by Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act and as such are not required to provide information under this item.

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## ITEM 8 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The Company's consolidated financial statements required by this item are included on pages F-1 through F-27 of this Annual Report. See Item 15(a)(1) for a listing of financial statements provided.

## ITEM 9 - CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

None.

## ITEM 9A - CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

### Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of December 31, 2024, our management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act"), under the supervision of and with the participation of our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Based on that evaluation, our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective on December 31, 2024, and during the period prior to and including the date of this report.

A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, have been detected.

### *Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting*

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer (principal executive officer), is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act. We have designed our internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (U.S. GAAP), and include those policies and procedures that:

- pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and disposition of our assets;
- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorization of our management and directors; and
- provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Our management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting as of December 31, 2024. In making this evaluation, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") in its 2013 *Internal Control — Integrated Framework*.

Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our internal controls over financial reporting were effective as of the end of the period covered in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

This Annual Report does not include an attestation report of the Company's registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Management's report was not subject to attestation by the Company's registered public accounting firm pursuant to rules of the SEC that permit the Company to provide only management's report in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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#### **Limitations on the Effectiveness of Controls**

The effectiveness of any system of internal control over financial reporting, including ours, is subject to inherent limitations, including the exercise of judgment in designing, implementing, operating and evaluating the controls and procedures, and the inability to eliminate misconduct completely. Accordingly, any system of internal control over financial reporting, including ours, no matter how well designed and operated, can only provide reasonable, not absolute assurance. In addition, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. We intend to continue to monitor and upgrade our internal controls as necessary or appropriate for our business but cannot assure you that such improvements will be sufficient to provide us with effective internal control over financial reporting.

#### **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during our fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2024, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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**ITEM 9B - OTHER INFORMATION**

(a) None.

(b) During the three months ended December 31, 2024, no director or Section 16 officer adopted or terminated any Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangements or non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangements as defined in Item 408 of Regulation S-K.

**ITEM 9C – DISCLOSURE REGARDING FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS THAT PREVENT INSPECTIONS**

Not applicable.

**PART III**

**ITEM 10 - DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

With the exception of the description of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics below, the information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the discussion under the headings “Directors and Director Compensation,” “Corporate Governance,” “Executive Officers” and “Other Matters—Delinquent Section 16(a) Reports” in our definitive Proxy Statement to be filed in connection with our 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

**Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our employees, officers and directors, including those officers responsible for financial reporting. The code of business conduct and ethics is available on our corporate website at [www.ipdn.com](http://www.ipdn.com). Any amendment to, or waiver from, a provision of such code of ethics will be posted on our website. Information on the Company’s website is not incorporated by reference herein.

**ITEM 11 - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

Information regarding director and executive compensation is incorporated by reference from the discussion under the headings “Directors and Director Compensation” and “Executive Officers and Executive Compensation” in our definitive Proxy Statement to be filed in connection with our 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

**ITEM 12 - SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS**

Certain of the information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the discussion under the heading “Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Holders and Management” in our definitive Proxy Statement to be filed in connection with our 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

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## Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

On April 11, 2023, the Board of Directors adopted a new equity incentive plan, the Professional Diversity Network, Inc. 2023 Equity Compensation Plan (the “2023 Equity Compensation Plan”). The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan was approved by our stockholders on June 15, 2023. The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan supersedes and replaces the 2013 Plan, and no new awards will be granted under the 2013 Plan. The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan reserves 75,000 shares of common stock for issuance of awards to directors, officers, employees and qualifying consultants of the Company and its affiliates.

Any awards outstanding under the 2013 Equity Compensation Plan (“2013 Plan”) remain subject to and will be paid under the 2013 Plan. No new awards will be issued under the 2013 Plan.

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2024, with respect to shares of our common stock that may be issued under our existing equity compensation plans:

### Equity Compensation Plan Information

| Plan category                                              | (a)                                                                                         | (b)                                                      | (c)                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                            | Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights | Weighted - average exercise price of outstanding options | Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) |
| 2013 Equity Compensation Plan (1)                          | 2,806                                                                                       | \$ 90.40                                                 | -                                                                                                                                           |
| 2023 Equity Compensation Plan (2)                          | 24,653                                                                                      | -                                                        | 48,894                                                                                                                                      |
| Equity compensation plans not approved by our shareholders | -                                                                                           | -                                                        | -                                                                                                                                           |
| Total                                                      | 27,459                                                                                      | \$ 90.40                                                 | 48,894                                                                                                                                      |

(1) Includes outstanding stock options to purchase shares of our common stock pursuant to the Company’s 2013 Equity Compensation Plan, as amended, as approved by our stockholders.

(2) Includes outstanding restricted stock awards pursuant to the Company’s 2023 Equity Compensation Plan, as approved by our stockholders.

## ITEM 13 - CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the discussion under the headings “Certain Transactions and Business Relationships” and “Corporate Governance” in the 2024 Proxy Statement.

## ITEM 14 - PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

Our independent registered public accounting firm is Sasseti, LLC, Oak Brook, Illinois (Auditor Firm ID No. 29). The information required by this item is incorporated herein by reference from the discussion under the heading “Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm” in our definitive Proxy Statement to be filed in connection with our 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

## PART IV

## ITEM 15 - EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

### 1. Financial Statements

The consolidated financial statements and schedules listed in the accompanying Index to Financial Statements on page F-1 are filed as part of this report.

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2. Financial Statement Schedules

The financial statement schedules have been omitted because they are not applicable or because the required information is given in the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto.

3. Exhibits

The exhibits listed on the Index to Exhibits (pages 41 through 42) are filed as part of this Annual Report.

ITEM 16. FORM 10-K SUMMARY

None.

| Exhibit Number | Description of Exhibit                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.1            | <a href="#">Agreement and Plan of Merger among the Company, NAPW Merger Sub, Inc., NAPW, Inc. and Matthew B. Proman, dated as of July 11, 2014 (incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 14, 2014).</a>                                                                                      |
| 2.2            | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of August 12, 2016, by and between Professional Diversity Network, Inc. and Cosmic Forward Limited, including as Exhibit A the form of Stockholders' Agreement (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 15, 2016).</a>      |
| 3.1            | <a href="#">Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, as amended through October 17, 2016 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed with the SEC on October 18, 2021).</a>                                                                                         |
| 3.2            | <a href="#">Certificate of Amendment to Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, dated January 3, 2023 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 4, 2023).</a>                                                                                           |
| 3.3            | <a href="#">Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, as amended (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 8, 2016).</a>                                                                                                                                         |
| 4.1            | <a href="#">Common Stock Certificate (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Amendment No. 12 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 333-181594), filed with the SEC on February 28, 2013).</a>                                                                                                                               |
| 4.2            | <a href="#">Description of securities registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-260316), filed with the SEC on October 18, 2021).</a>                                                                                                   |
| 10.1           | <a href="#">Stockholders' Agreement, dated as of November 7, 2016, by and among Professional Diversity Network, Inc., Cosmic Forward Limited, Maoji (Michael) Wang, Jingbo Song, Yong Xiong Zheng and Nan Nan Kou (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.9 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 8, 2016).</a> |
| 10.2#          | <a href="#">Amended and Restated Professional Diversity Network, Inc. 2013 Equity Compensation Plan (incorporated herein by reference to Appendix A to the Company's proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on April 30, 2021).</a>                                                                                                             |
| 10.3#          | <a href="#">Professional Diversity Network, Inc. 2023 Equity Compensation Plan (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on June 21, 2023).</a>                                                                                                                                      |
| 10.4#          | <a href="#">Employment Agreement between the Company and Adam He, dated as of July 18, 2023 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 24, 2023).</a>                                                                                                                                |
| 10.5           | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement dated September 27, 2022 between the Company and Koala Malta Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 30, 2022).</a>                                                                                                                             |
| 10.6           | <a href="#">Shareholders' Agreement dated September 27, 2022, among the Company, Koala Malta Limited and Koala Crypto Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 30, 2022).</a>                                                                                                         |
| 10.7           | <a href="#">Charge over Shares dated September 27, 2022, relating to Koala Crypto Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 30, 2022).</a>                                                                                                                                             |
| 10.8           | <a href="#">Guarantee and Indemnity dated September 27, 2022, by Koala Capital Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 30, 2022).</a>                                                                                                                                                |
| 10.9           | <a href="#">Common Stock Purchase Agreement date June 30, 2023 between the Company and Tumim Stone Capital LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on June 30, 2023).</a>                                                                                                             |
| 10.10          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement date March 13, 2023 between the Company and Yiran Gu (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 15, 2023).</a>                                                                                                                                 |
| 10.11          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement date December 10, 2023 between the Company and Cosmic Forward Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 14, 2023).</a>                                                                                                             |
| 10.12          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement dated June 28, 2024 between the Company and Eighty-eight Investment LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on July 1, 2024)</a>                                                                                                                     |
| 10.13          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement dated September 26, 2024 between the Company and Yu Tian (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on September 30, 2024)</a>                                                                                                                              |
| 10.14          | <a href="#">Securities Purchase Agreement by and between the Company and the Investor (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on November 20, 2024)</a>                                                                                                                                       |
| 10.15          | <a href="#">Placement Agency Agreement, dated November 18, 2024, by and between the Company and A.G.P./Alliance Global Partners (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on November 20, 2024)</a>                                                                                             |
| 10.16          | <a href="#">Profit Participation Agreement, dated December 5, 2024 between the Company and Koala Malta Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on December 10, 2024)</a>                                                                                                              |
| 10.17          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement, dated December 5, 2024 between the Company and Koala Malta Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on December 10, 2024)</a>                                                                                                                    |
| 10.18          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement, dated December 19, 2024 between the Company and Aurous Vertex Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on December 23, 2024)</a>                                                                                                                 |
| 10.19          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement, dated January 26, 2025 between the Company and AI Geometric Ltd (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on January 30, 2025)</a>                                                                                                                        |
| 10.20          | <a href="#">Stock Purchase Agreement, dated February 25, 2025 between the Company and Boris Krastev Ventures UG (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with SEC on March 3, 2025)</a>                                                                                                                 |
| 21*            | <a href="#">List of Subsidiaries of the Company</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 23.1*          | <a href="#">Consent of Sassetti, LLC.</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 24             | <a href="#">Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page to this report)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 31.1*          | <a href="#">Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</a>                                                                                                                                                                     |



31.2\* [Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-14\(a\) or Rule 15d-14\(a\) as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002](#)

32.1\* [Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002](#)

32.2\* [Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002](#)

97\* [Professional Diversity Network, Inc. Policy for the Recovery of Erroneously Awarded Compensation](#)

101.INS Inline XBRL Instance Document

101.SCH Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document

101.CAL Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document

101.DEF Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

101.LAB Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase Document

101.PRE Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

\* Filed herewith

# Denotes a management contract or compensation plan or arrangement

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## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, on March 31, 2025.

PROFESSIONAL DIVERSITY NETWORK, INC.

By: /s/ Xin (Adam) He  
Name: Xin (Adam) He  
Title: Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and  
Stockholders of Professional Diversity Network, Inc.

**Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Professional Diversity Network, Inc. (the Company) as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the financial statements). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2024, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Going Concern**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As more fully described in Note 2, the Company has incurred recurring operating losses, has a significant accumulated deficit, and will need to raise additional funds to meet its obligations and the costs of its operations. These conditions raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Management's plans in regard to these matters are also described in Note 2. The consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

**Basis for Opinion**

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

**Critical Audit Matters**

The critical audit matter communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the consolidated financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relate to accounts or disclosures that are material to the consolidated financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matter does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

**Revenue Recognition**

*Critical Audit Matter Description*

As described in Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company derives its revenue from multiple sources, including recruitment services, contracted software development, and membership fees. Most contracts have one performance obligation and are recognized at a point in time contemporaneous when the service is performed or with the date of the event. The Company has other agreements for services that may stretch over longer periods of time or contain multiple performance obligations which are accounted for separately, if they are distinct that require further analysis to determine proper recognition.

*How the Critical Audit Matter was Addressed in the Audit*

To address this matter in our audit, we obtained an understanding of the design and implementation of internal controls as they relate to the revenue process, including the various revenue streams. Our audit procedures included, among others, reading the contract or sales order from the customer to identify the performance obligation(s), including any distinct performance obligations, and evaluating timing of revenue recognition for a sample of sales transactions. A sample of transactions from the billing system was traced to source data as well as cash receipts.

**Investment Valuation**

*Critical Audit Matter Description*

As described in Note 8, the Company's valuation of the Level 3 investment in Profit Participation Rights involves the calculation of estimated fair value of QBSG Limited, a non-public entity. The Company uses the discounted cash flow model to estimate fair value, among other models, which requires management to make significant estimates and assumptions related to forecasts of future revenue and operating margin. In addition, the discounted cash flow model requires the Company to select an appropriate weighted average cost of capital based on current market conditions as of December 31, 2024. Changes in these assumptions could have a significant impact on the fair value. In turn, a high degree of auditor judgment was required when performing audit procedures to evaluate the reasonableness of management's estimates and assumptions, related to the forecasts of revenue and operating margin and selection of the weighted average cost of capital.

*How the Critical Audit Matter was Addressed in the Audit*

To address this matter in our audit, we obtained an understanding of the design and implementation of internal controls as they relate to management's evaluation of the inputs to the estimated fair value. Our audit procedures included evaluating the reasonableness of the valuation models, methodology and significant assumptions, including comparing forecasts to internal communications to management and the board of directors. We tested the mathematical accuracy of the Company's calculation of the weighted average cost of capital and compared value to peer companies in similar industries.

*Sassetti LLC*

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2022.

Oak Brook, Illinois

March 31, 2025

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**Professional Diversity Network, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>December 31,</b> |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>2024</b>         | <b>2023</b>  |
| <b>Current Assets:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                     |              |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                                                                                                                                                                                    | \$ 1,731,155        | \$ 627,641   |
| Accounts receivable, net                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1,218,679           | 1,134,067    |
| Other receivables                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 12,577              | 50,000       |
| Prepaid expense and other current assets                                                                                                                                                                                     | 264,117             | 556,698      |
| Total current assets                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 3,226,528           | 2,368,406    |
| <b>Property and equipment, net</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           | 48,956              | 42,043       |
| <b>Capitalized technology, net</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           | 327,372             | 186,103      |
| <b>Goodwill</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1,417,753           | 1,417,753    |
| <b>Intangible assets, net</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                | 134,733             | 225,848      |
| <b>Right-of-use assets</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 226,704             | 298,485      |
| <b>Security deposits</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 49,755              | 66,340       |
| <b>Long-term restricted cash</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             | -                   | 184,055      |
| <b>Other assets</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2,550,000           | 1,537,499    |
| Total assets                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | \$ 7,981,801        | \$ 6,326,532 |
| <b>Current Liabilities:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                     |              |
| Accounts payable                                                                                                                                                                                                             | \$ 155,661          | \$ 524,854   |
| Accrued expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 863,888             | 867,884      |
| Deferred revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1,842,036           | 1,999,841    |
| Lease liability, current portion                                                                                                                                                                                             | 94,248              | 82,652       |
| Total current liabilities                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2,955,833           | 3,475,231    |
| <b>Lease liability, non-current portion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  | 185,064             | 283,060      |
| Total liabilities                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 3,140,897           | 3,758,291    |
| <b>Commitments and contingencies</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         | -                   | -            |
| <b>Stockholders' Equity</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                     |              |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 45,000,000 shares authorized, 1,823,327 shares and 1,145,253 shares issued as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and 1,823,275 and 1,145,201 shares outstanding as of December 31, 2024 and 2023 | 18,233              | 11,452       |
| Additional paid in capital                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 107,755,971         | 102,976,542  |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income                                                                                                                                                                                       | -                   | -            |
| Accumulated deficit                                                                                                                                                                                                          | (102,414,683)       | (99,902,718) |
| Treasury stock, at cost; 52 and 52 shares at December 31, 2024 and 2023                                                                                                                                                      | (37,117)            | (37,117)     |
| Total Professional Diversity Network, Inc. stockholders' equity                                                                                                                                                              | 5,322,404           | 3,048,159    |
| <b>Non-controlling interest</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              | (481,500)           | (479,918)    |
| Total stockholders' equity                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 4,840,904           | 2,568,241    |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity                                                                                                                                                                                   | \$ 7,981,801        | \$ 6,326,532 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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**Professional Diversity Network, Inc. and Subsidiaries**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE LOSS**

|                                                                                         | Year Ended December 31, |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|                                                                                         | 2024                    | 2023           |
| <b>Revenues:</b>                                                                        |                         |                |
| Membership fees and related services                                                    | \$ 428,612              | \$ 530,745     |
| Recruitment services                                                                    | 4,434,235               | 4,639,642      |
| Contracted software development                                                         | 1,830,018               | 2,437,352      |
| Consumer advertising and marketing solutions                                            | 37,740                  | 91,298         |
| Total revenues                                                                          | 6,730,605               | 7,699,037      |
| <b>Costs and expenses:</b>                                                              |                         |                |
| Cost of revenues                                                                        | 2,646,425               | 3,460,957      |
| Sales and marketing                                                                     | 2,752,173               | 3,700,997      |
| General and administrative                                                              | 3,533,351               | 4,451,630      |
| Depreciation and amortization                                                           | 203,801                 | 624,004        |
| Total costs and expenses                                                                | 9,135,750               | 12,237,588     |
| Loss from continuing operations                                                         | (2,405,145)             | (4,538,551)    |
| <b>Other income (expense)</b>                                                           |                         |                |
| Interest and other income (expense), net                                                | (184,221)               | 12,934         |
| Other income (expense), net                                                             | (184,221)               | 12,934         |
| Loss before income tax benefit                                                          | (2,589,366)             | (4,525,617)    |
| Income tax benefit (expense)                                                            | (6,321)                 | 139,380        |
| Loss from continuing operations, net of tax                                             | (2,595,687)             | (4,386,237)    |
| Loss from discontinued operations                                                       | -                       | (28,428)       |
| Net loss including non-controlling interests                                            | \$ (2,595,687)          | \$ (4,414,665) |
| Net loss attributable to non-controlling interests                                      | 83,722                  | 103,366        |
| Net loss attributable to Professional Diversity Network, Inc.                           | (2,511,965)             | (4,311,299)    |
| <b>Other comprehensive loss, net of tax:</b>                                            |                         |                |
| Net loss attributable to Professional Diversity Network, Inc.                           | \$ (2,511,965)          | \$ (4,311,299) |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment                                                 | -                       | (5,695)        |
| Comprehensive loss                                                                      | \$ (2,511,965)          | \$ (4,316,994) |
| <b>Basic and diluted loss per share:</b>                                                |                         |                |
| Continuing operations                                                                   | \$ (2.07)               | \$ (4.27)      |
| Net loss per share                                                                      | \$ (2.07)               | \$ (4.27)      |
| <b>Weighted-average outstanding shares used in computing net loss per common share:</b> |                         |                |
| Basic and diluted                                                                       | 1,252,300               | 1,062,152      |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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**Professional Diversity Network, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

|                                                       | Common Stock     |                  | Additional            | Accumulated             | Treasury Stock |                     | Accumulated        | Non-                | Total               |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                                       | Shares           | Amount           | Paid in               | Deficit                 | Shares         | Amount              | Other              | controlling         | Stockholders'       |
|                                                       |                  |                  | Capital               |                         |                |                     | Comprehensive      | Interest in         | Equity              |
|                                                       |                  |                  |                       |                         |                |                     | Income (Loss)      | Subsidiary          |                     |
| <b>Balance at December 31, 2022</b>                   | <b>1,036,743</b> | <b>\$ 10,367</b> | <b>\$ 101,821,908</b> | <b>\$ (98,382,540)</b>  | <b>53,094</b>  | <b>\$ (892,482)</b> | <b>\$ (10,986)</b> | <b>\$ (237,243)</b> | <b>\$ 2,309,024</b> |
| Sale of common stock                                  | 119,914          | 1,200            | 3,363,100             | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | 3,364,300           |
| Commitment fee                                        | 17,620           | 176              | 749,824               | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | 750,000             |
| Issuance of common stock                              | 9,934            | 99               | 199,901               | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | 200,000             |
| Share-based compensation                              | 14,032           | 140              | 299,699               | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | 299,839             |
| Stock Buyback Plan                                    | (53,042)         | (530)            | (854,835)             | -                       | (53,042)       | 855,365             | -                  | -                   | -                   |
| Extinguishment of discontinued operations liabilities | -                | -                | (2,303,231)           | 2,791,121               | -              | -                   | 16,681             | -                   | 504,571             |
| Amortization of commitment fee                        | -                | -                | (187,500)             | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | (187,500)           |
| Investment in subsidiary                              | -                | -                | (112,324)             | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | (139,309)           | (251,633)           |
| Translation adjustments                               | -                | -                | -                     | -                       | -              | -                   | (5,695)            | -                   | (5,695)             |
| Net loss                                              | -                | -                | -                     | (4,311,299)             | -              | -                   | -                  | (103,366)           | (4,414,665)         |
| <b>Balance at December 31, 2023</b>                   | <b>1,145,201</b> | <b>\$ 11,452</b> | <b>\$ 102,976,542</b> | <b>\$ (99,902,718)</b>  | <b>52</b>      | <b>\$ (37,117)</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>        | <b>\$ (479,918)</b> | <b>\$ 2,568,241</b> |
| Sale of common stock                                  | 557,999          | 5,580            | 4,480,137             | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | 4,485,717           |
| Issuance of common stock                              | 113,636          | 1,136            | 498,864               | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | 500,000             |
| Share-based compensation                              | 6,439            | 65               | 175,428               | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | 175,493             |
| Amortization of commitment fee                        | -                | -                | (375,000)             | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | -                   | (375,000)           |
| Changes in Noncontrolling Interests                   | -                | -                | -                     | -                       | -              | -                   | -                  | 82,140              | 82,140              |
| Net loss                                              | -                | -                | -                     | (2,511,965)             | -              | -                   | -                  | (83,722)            | (2,595,687)         |
| <b>Balance at December 31, 2024</b>                   | <b>1,823,275</b> | <b>\$ 18,233</b> | <b>\$ 107,755,971</b> | <b>\$ (102,414,683)</b> | <b>52</b>      | <b>\$ (37,117)</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>        | <b>\$ (481,500)</b> | <b>\$ 4,840,904</b> |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



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**Professional Diversity Network, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

|                                                                                                                                | Year Ended December 31, |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
|                                                                                                                                | 2024                    | 2023               |
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>                                                                                   |                         |                    |
| Loss from continuing operations                                                                                                | \$ (2,595,687)          | \$ (4,386,237)     |
| Adjustments to reconcile net loss from continuing operations to net cash used in operating activities - continuing operations: |                         |                    |
| Depreciation and amortization                                                                                                  | 203,801                 | 624,004            |
| Deferred income taxes                                                                                                          | -                       | (143,069)          |
| Noncash lease expense                                                                                                          | 91,387                  | 91,386             |
| Stock-based compensation expense                                                                                               | 175,493                 | 299,839            |
| Provision for doubtful accounts                                                                                                | 13,986                  | (15,761)           |
| Loss on seizure of cash                                                                                                        | 184,055                 | -                  |
| Extinguishment of discontinued operations liabilities                                                                          | -                       | 156,739            |
| Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment                                                                              | 2,024                   | -                  |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of discontinued operations:                                        |                         |                    |
| Accounts receivable                                                                                                            | (98,597)                | 199,910            |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets                                                                                      | 159,089                 | 278,609            |
| Accounts payable                                                                                                               | (369,194)               | 186,253            |
| Accrued expenses                                                                                                               | (3,996)                 | (203,955)          |
| Lease liability                                                                                                                | (106,006)               | (103,555)          |
| Deferred revenue                                                                                                               | (157,805)               | 6,352              |
| Net cash used in operating activities - continuing operations                                                                  | (2,501,450)             | (3,009,485)        |
| Net cash used in operating activities - discontinued operations                                                                | -                       | (17,443)           |
| <b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>                                                                                   | <b>(2,501,450)</b>      | <b>(3,026,928)</b> |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>                                                                                   |                         |                    |
| Costs incurred to develop technology                                                                                           | (242,020)               | (181,111)          |
| Purchases of property and equipment                                                                                            | (20,873)                | (30,426)           |
| Investment in QBSG Limited                                                                                                     | (700,000)               | -                  |
| Acquisition of Expo Experts                                                                                                    | -                       | (400,000)          |
| Additional Investment in noncontrolling subsidiary                                                                             | -                       | (334,965)          |
| Net cash used in investing activities - continuing operations                                                                  | (962,893)               | (946,502)          |
| <b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>                                                                                   | <b>(962,893)</b>        | <b>(946,502)</b>   |
| <b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>                                                                                   |                         |                    |
| Proceeds from the sale of common stock                                                                                         | 4,485,717               | 3,364,300          |
| Proceeds from Noncontrolling Interests                                                                                         | 82,140                  | -                  |
| Net cash provided by financing activities - continuing operations                                                              | 4,567,857               | 3,364,300          |
| <b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>                                                                               | <b>4,567,857</b>        | <b>3,364,300</b>   |
| Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents                                                              |                         |                    |
| Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents                                                                           | 1,103,514               | (609,130)          |
| Cash, cash equivalents, beginning of period                                                                                    | 627,641                 | 1,236,771          |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period                                                                                       | <b>1,731,155</b>        | <b>627,641</b>     |
| <b>Supplemental disclosures of other cash flow information:</b>                                                                |                         |                    |
| Non-cash stock issuance for commitment funding                                                                                 | \$ -                    | \$ 750,000         |
| Non-cash stock issuance for acquisition of Expo Experts                                                                        | \$ -                    | \$ 200,000         |
| Non-cash stock issuance for investment in QBSG Limited                                                                         | \$ 500,000              | \$ -               |
| Non-cash amortization of commitment funding                                                                                    | \$ 375,000              | \$ 187,500         |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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**Professional Diversity Network, Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Description of Business**

Professional Diversity Network, Inc. is both the operator of the TalentAlly Network (the “Company,” “we,” “our,” “us,” “PDN” or the “Professional Diversity Network”) and a holding company for NAPW, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company and the operator of the National Association of Professional Women (the “NAPW Network” or “NAPW”). The TalentAlly Network operates online professional networking communities with career resources specifically tailored to the needs of different diverse cultural groups including Women, Hispanic-Americans, African-Americans, Asian-Americans, persons with disabilities, Military Professionals, Lesbians, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+), and Students and Graduates seeking to transition from education to career. The networks’ purposes, among others, are to assist its registered users in their efforts to connect with like-minded individuals, identify career opportunities within the network and connect with prospective employers. The Company’s technology platform is integral to the operation of its business.

The NAPW Network is a networking organization for professional women, whereby its members can develop their professional networks, further their education and skills, and promote their business and career accomplishments. NAPW provides its members with opportunities to network and develop valuable business relationships with other professionals through its website, as well as at events hosted at its local chapters across the country.

RemoteMore USA is an innovative, global entity that provides remote-hiring marketplace services for developers and companies. Companies are connected with reliable, cost-efficient, vetted developers, and empower every developer to find a meaningful job regardless of their location.

**2. Going Concern and Management’s Plans**

At December 31, 2024, the Company’s principal sources of liquidity were its cash and cash equivalents and the net proceeds from the sale of common stock during the twelve months ended December 31, 2024.

The Company had an accumulated deficit of \$102,414,683 on December 31, 2024. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Company generated a net loss from continuing operations of \$2,405,145 and used cash in continuing operations during the twelve months ended December 31, 2024, of \$2,501,450. On December 31, 2024, the Company had a cash balance of \$1,731,155. Total revenues during the year ended December 31, 2024, were \$6,730,605 compared to total revenues of \$7,699,037 during the year ended December 31, 2023. The Company had a working capital from continuing operations of \$270,695 and a working capital deficit from continuing operations of \$1,106,825 on December 31, 2024, and 2023. These conditions raise substantial doubt about the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern. The ability of the Company to continue as a going concern is dependent on the Company’s ability to further implement its business plan, raise capital through the issuance of common stock, and generate revenues. The consolidated financial information contained herein does not include any adjustments that might be necessary if the Company is unable to continue as a going concern.

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Management believes that its available cash on hand and cash flow from operations may be sufficient to meet our working capital requirements through the fiscal period ending December 31, 2025, however in order to accomplish our business plan objectives, the Company will need to continue its cost reduction efforts, increase revenues, raise capital through the issuance of common stock, or through a strategic merger or acquisition. There can be no assurances that our business plans and actions will be successful, that we will generate anticipated revenues, or that unforeseen circumstances will not require additional funding sources in the future or require an acceleration of plans to conserve liquidity. Future efforts to improve liquidity through the issuance of our common stock may not be successful, or if available, they may not be available on acceptable terms.

### 3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

**Basis of Presentation** - The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP").

**Use of Estimates** - The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Making estimates requires management to exercise significant judgment. It is at least reasonably possible that the estimate of the effect of a condition, situation or set of circumstances that existed at the date of the consolidated financial statements, which management considered in formulating its estimate, could change in the near term due to one or more future intervening events. Accordingly, the actual results could differ significantly from estimates.

Significant estimates underlying the consolidated financial statements include the fair value of acquired assets and liabilities associated with acquisitions; assessment of goodwill impairment, other intangible assets and long-lived assets for impairment; allowances for credit losses and assumptions related to the valuation allowances on deferred taxes, impact of applying the revised federal tax rates on deferred taxes, the valuation of stock-based compensation and the valuation of stock warrants.

**Principles of Consolidation** - The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company, its wholly owned subsidiaries, and those subsidiaries where less than 50% is owned but consolidation is required. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

**Cash Equivalents** - The Company considers cash equivalents to include all short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and have original maturities of three months or less.

**Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Credit Losses** - The Company's accounts receivable consists principally of uncollateralized amounts billed to customers. These receivables are generally due within 30 to 90 days of the period in which the corresponding sales occur and do not bear interest. They are recorded at net realizable value less an allowance for credit losses and are classified as account receivable, net on the consolidated balance sheets.

The Company considers both current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts of future conditions when evaluating expected credit losses for uncollectible receivable balances. In our determination of the allowance for credit losses, we pool receivables by days outstanding and apply an expected credit loss percentage to each pool. The expected credit loss percentage is determined using historical loss data adjusted for current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions. Current conditions considered include predefined aging criteria, as well as specified events that indicate the balance due is not collectible. Reasonable and supportable forecasts used in determining the probability of future collection consider publicly available macroeconomic data and whether future credit losses are expected to differ from historical losses.

The Company is not party to any off-balance sheet arrangements that would require an allowance for credit losses in accordance with this accounting standard.

#### Allowance for Credit Losses

The following table summarizes the activity related to the Company's allowance for credit losses:

|                              | <u>December 31, 2024</u> | <u>December 31, 2023</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ 66,526                | \$ 102,515               |
| Provision for credit losses  | 13,986                   | (15,761)                 |
| Write-offs                   | (18,589)                 | (20,228)                 |
| Balance, end of period       | <u>\$ 61,923</u>         | <u>\$ 66,526</u>         |

The numbers presented above relate solely to our portfolio of trade accounts receivable as no allowance for credit losses was recognized on other receivables as presented on our consolidated balance sheets.

**Other Receivables** - Other receivables represent amounts that are owed to the Company that are not considered trade receivables. The Company periodically reviews its other receivables for credit risk to determine whether an allowance is necessary and other factors that may indicate that the realization of an account may be in doubt. Account balances deemed to be uncollectible are charged to the allowance after all means of collection have been exhausted and the potential for recovery is considered remote. As of December 31, 2024, the balance in other receivables as reported on the consolidated balance sheet was deemed collectible.

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**Property and Equipment** - Property and equipment are stated at cost, including any cost to place the property into service, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which currently range from three to five years. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the term of the lease. Maintenance, repairs and minor replacements are charged to operations as incurred; major replacements and betterments are capitalized. The cost of any assets sold or retired and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts at the time of disposition, and any resulting profit or loss is reflected in income or expense for the period. Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023 was \$11,936 and \$12,723, respectively, and is recorded in depreciation and amortization expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations. Accumulated depreciation as of December 31, 2024, and 2023, was \$36,734 and \$27,303, respectively.

**Lease Obligations** - The Company leases office space under a non-cancelable operating lease that expires through September 2027. The Company's facility lease provides for periodic rent increases and may contain escalation clauses and renewal options. The Company's lease terms include options to extend the lease if they are reasonably certain of being exercised.

The Company recognizes operating lease expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term and variable lease payments are expensed as incurred. Lease costs are primarily recorded within SG&A expenses in the Company's consolidated statements of loss and comprehensive loss.

The Company determines if a contract contains a lease at lease inception. If the borrowing rate implicit in the lease is not determinable, the Company uses its incremental borrowing rate ("IBR") based on information available at lease commencement including prevailing financial market conditions to determine the present value of future lease payments. The Company has elected the option to combine lease and non-lease components as a single component for the Company's entire population of lease assets.

Operating lease assets and lease liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date. Operating lease liabilities represent the present value of lease payments not yet paid. Operating lease assets represent the right to use an underlying asset and are based upon the operating lease liabilities adjusted for prepayments or accrued lease payments, initial direct costs, and lease incentives. The Company has elected not to apply the recognition requirements to short-term leases of 12 months or less and instead recognizes lease payments as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company's lease agreements do not contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants. Leased assets are presented net of accumulated amortization. Variable lease payment amounts that cannot be determined at the commencement of the lease, such as increases in lease payments based on changes in index rates or usage, are not included in the ROU assets or liabilities; instead, these are expensed as incurred and recorded as variable lease expense.

**Capitalized Technology Costs** - In accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 350-40, Internal-Use Software, the Company capitalizes certain external and internal computer software costs incurred during the application development stage. The application development stage generally includes software design and configuration, coding, testing and installation activities. Training and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred, while upgrades and enhancements are capitalized if it is probable that such expenditures will result in additional functionality. Capitalized software costs are amortized over the estimated useful lives of the software assets on a straight-line basis, generally not exceeding three years.

**Business Combinations** - ASC 805, Business Combinations ("ASC 805"), applies the acquisition method of accounting for business combinations to all acquisitions where the acquirer gains a controlling interest, regardless of whether consideration was exchanged. ASC 805 establishes principles and requirements for how the acquirer: a) recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree; b) recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase; and c) determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. Accounting for acquisitions requires the Company to recognize, separately from goodwill, the assets acquired, and the liabilities assumed at their acquisition-date fair values. Goodwill as of the acquisition date is measured as the excess of consideration transferred and the net of the acquisition-date fair values of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed. While the Company uses its best estimates and assumptions to accurately value assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the acquisition date, the estimates are inherently uncertain and subject to refinement. As a result, during the measurement period, which may be up to one year from the acquisition date, the Company may record adjustments to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed with the corresponding offset to goodwill. Upon the conclusion of the measurement period or final determination of the values of assets acquired or liabilities assumed, whichever comes first, any subsequent adjustments are recorded in the interim financial information. (See Note 4 – Business Combinations.)

**Goodwill and Intangible Assets** - The Company accounts for goodwill and intangible assets in accordance with ASC 350, Intangibles – Goodwill and Other ("ASC 350"). ASC 350 requires that goodwill and other intangibles with indefinite lives should be tested for impairment annually or on an interim basis if events or circumstances indicate that the fair value of an asset has decreased below its carrying value. (See Note 4 – Business Combinations and Note 7 – Intangible Assets.)

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Goodwill is tested for impairment at the reporting unit level on an annual basis (December 31) and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value. The Company considers its market capitalization and the carrying value of its assets and liabilities, including goodwill, when performing its goodwill impairment test.

When conducting its annual goodwill impairment assessment, the Company initially performs a qualitative evaluation of whether it is more likely than not that goodwill is impaired. If it is determined by a qualitative evaluation that it is more likely than not that goodwill is impaired, the Company then compares the fair value of the Company's reporting unit to its carrying or book value. If the fair value of the reporting unit exceeds its carrying value, goodwill is not impaired and the Company is not required to perform further testing. If the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the Company will measure any goodwill impairment losses as the amount by which the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, not to exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit.

**Contingent Liabilities** – Our determination of the treatment of contingent liabilities in the consolidated financial statements is based on our view of the expected outcome of the applicable contingency. In the ordinary course of business, we consult with legal counsel on matters related to litigation and other experts both within and outside our Company. We accrue a liability if the likelihood of an adverse outcome is probable and the amount of loss is reasonably estimable. We disclose the matter, but do not accrue a liability if the likelihood of an adverse outcome is reasonably possible and an estimate of loss is not determinable. Legal and other costs incurred in conjunction with loss contingencies are expensed as incurred.

**Treasury Stock** – Treasury stock is recorded at cost as a reduction of stockholders' equity in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

**Revenue Recognition** – Revenue is recognized when all of the following conditions exist: (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (2) services are performed, (3) the sales price is fixed or determinable, and (4) collectability is reasonably assured. (See Note 5 – Revenue Recognition.)

Deferred revenue includes customer payments, which are received prior to performing services and revenues are recognized as benefits are provided to the customer. Annual membership fees collected at the time of enrollment are recognized as revenue ratably over the membership period, which are typically for a 12-month membership period.

**Advertising and Marketing Expenses** – Advertising and marketing expenses are expensed as incurred or the first time the advertising takes place. The production costs of advertising are expensed the first time the advertising takes place. For the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, the Company incurred advertising and marketing expenses of \$746,490 and \$1,130,262. These amounts are included in sales and marketing expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss.

**Concentrations of Credit Risk** - Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Company to concentration of credit risk, consist principally of cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. The Company places its cash with high credit quality institutions. At times, such amounts may be in excess of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance limits. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes that it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on the account.

**Income Taxes** - The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740, Income Taxes, which requires that the Company recognize deferred tax liabilities and assets based on the differences between the financial statement basis and tax basis of assets and liabilities, using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. The Company estimates the degree to which tax assets and credit carryforwards will result in a benefit based on expected profitability by tax jurisdiction. A valuation allowance for such tax assets and loss carryforwards is provided when it is determined to be more likely than not that the benefit of such deferred tax asset will not be realized in future periods. If it becomes more likely than not that a tax asset will be used, the related valuation allowance on such assets would be reduced.

ASC 740 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with ASC 740-20 and prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement process for financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. For those benefits to be recognized, a tax position must be more-likely-than-not to be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities. There were no unrecognized tax benefits as of December 31, 2024. The Company is currently not aware of any issues under review that could result in significant payments, accruals or material deviation from its position.

The Company may be subject to potential income tax examinations by Federal or state tax authorities. These potential examinations may include questioning the timing and amount of deductions, the nexus of income among various tax jurisdictions and compliance with federal and state tax laws. Management does not expect that the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits will materially change over the next twelve months. Tax years that remain open for assessment for Federal and state tax purposes include the years ended December 31, 2021 through 2023.

The Company's policy for recording interest and penalties associated with audits is to record such expenses as a component of income tax expense. There were no amounts accrued for penalties or interest as of December 31, 2024.

**Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities** - Financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and accounts payable, are carried at cost. Management believes that the recorded amounts approximate fair value due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

**Net Loss per Share** - The Company computes basic net loss per share by dividing net loss available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period and excludes the effects of any potentially dilutive securities. Diluted earnings per share, if presented, would include the dilution that would occur upon the exercise or conversion of all potentially dilutive securities into common stock using the "treasury stock" and/or "if converted" methods as applicable. The computation of basic net loss per share for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, excludes the potentially dilutive securities summarized in the table below because their inclusion would be anti-dilutive.

|                           | As of December 31, |       |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------|
|                           | 2024               | 2023  |
| Stock options             | 1,500              | 2,806 |
| Unvested restricted stock | 24,653             | 7,049 |
| Total dilutive securities | 26,153             | 9,855 |

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**Reclassifications**

Certain prior year amounts in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flow have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In November 2023, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2023-07, Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures, which updates reportable segment disclosure requirements primarily through enhanced disclosures about significant segment expenses. The amendments are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023, and for interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024. Early adoption is permitted. The amendments should be applied retrospectively to all prior periods presented in the financial statements. The Company adopted this standard in fiscal year 2024. Refer to "Note 15, Segment Information" for relevant disclosures.

In December 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-09, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures, which enhances effective tax rate reconciliation disclosure requirements and provides clarity to the disclosures of income taxes paid, income before taxes and provision for income taxes. The amendments are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024. Early adoption is permitted for annual financial statements that have not yet been issued or made available for issuance. The amendments in this update should be applied on a prospective basis. Retrospective application is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating this ASU to determine its impact on the Company’s disclosures.

In November 2024, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued ASU 2024-03, Income Statement – Reporting Comprehensive Income – Expense Disaggregation Disclosures. The ASU requires a public business entity to provide disaggregated disclosures of certain categories of expenses on an annual and interim basis including purchases of inventory, employee compensation, depreciation, and intangible asset amortization for each income statement line item that contains those expenses. This ASU is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2026, and interim periods within annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2027, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating this ASU to determine its impact on the Company’s disclosures.

**4. Business Combinations**

**RemoteMore USA, Inc.**

On September 20, 2021, the Company acquired a 45.62% interest in RemoteMore, a software developer recruiting company, for an estimated total purchase price of \$1,363,333, paying \$863,333 in cash and \$500,000 to be paid within one year of the acquisition date, or until certain factors of the agreement were met.

In February 2022, in connection with the September 2021 acquisition of the 45.62% interest in RemoteMore, and as a component of the aforementioned \$500,000 remaining purchase price payment, the Company issued 13,986 shares of its common stock, with a value of \$400,000, to the co-founders of RemoteMore. In January 2023, the Company exercised its option to purchase an additional 20% interest in RemoteMore at a purchase price of \$116,667.

In May 2023, the Company acquired an additional 7% interest in RemoteMore for approximately \$235,000. The acquisition interest and price were based on the original valuation of RemoteMore in September 2021. This acquisition increased the Company’s interest in RemoteMore to 72.62%.

**Expo Experts, LLC**

In January 2023, the Company purchased the assets and operations of Expo Experts, LLC (“Expo Experts”), an Ohio limited liability company, for a total consideration of \$600,000 funded by the payment of \$400,000 in cash and the issuance of restricted shares of PDN common stock valued at \$200,000 based on the volume weighted-average price as of twenty (20) days prior to the closing date. Expo Experts specializes in producing premier face-to-face and virtual recruiting events for Engineering, Technology and Security Clearance positions, as well as being designed to attract diverse candidates who may also have STEM-based backgrounds.

The purchase price allocation as of the date of the acquisition was based on a detailed analysis of the fair value of assets acquired. No liabilities were assumed other than the deferred revenue amount listed below. The major classes of assets and liabilities to which we have allocated the purchase price were as follows:

|                   |    |                |
|-------------------|----|----------------|
| Goodwill          | \$ | 126,301        |
| Intangible assets |    | 541,400        |
| Deferred revenues |    | (67,701)       |
|                   | \$ | <u>600,000</u> |

The goodwill recognized in connection with the acquisition is primarily attributable to anticipated synergies from future revenue growth through cross selling of PDN and Expo Experts products, and is expected to be deductible for tax purposes.

Intangible assets purchased in connection with the acquisition primarily represent specific events acquired which are expected to create revenue throughout fiscal 2023 and are reflected in the Company’s consolidated balance sheets at gross amounts, net of accumulated amortization (see Note 7 – Intangible Assets).

Expo Experts’ accounts and operations have been reflected in the TalentAlly Network for segment reporting purposes (see Note 15 - Segment Information).

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## 5. Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue under the core principle of ASC 606 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers (“ASC 606”), to depict the transfer of control to its customers in an amount reflecting the consideration to which it expects to be entitled. In order to achieve that core principle, the Company has applied the following five-step approach: (1) identify the contract 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 a performance obligation is satisfied.

The Company’s contracts with customers may provide for multiple promised goods and services. The Company typically analyzes the contract and identifies the performance obligations by evaluating whether the promised goods and services are capable of being distinct within the context of the contract at contract inception. Promised goods and services that are not distinct at contract inception are combined. The next step after identifying the performance obligations is determining the transaction price, which includes the impact of variable consideration, based on contractually fixed amounts and an estimation of variable consideration. The Company allocates the transaction price to each performance obligation based on relative stand-alone selling price. Judgment is exercised to determine the stand-alone selling price of each distinct performance obligation. The Company estimates the standalone selling price by reference to the total transaction price less the sum of the observable stand-alone selling prices of other goods or services promised in the contract. In general, transaction price is determined by estimating the fixed amount of consideration to which we are entitled for transfer of goods and services and all relevant sources and components of variable consideration. Revenues are generally recognized when control of the promised goods or services is transferred to their customers either at a point in time or over time, in an amount that reflects the consideration it expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services.

Many of the Company’s contracts have one performance obligation and all consideration is allocated to that performance obligation and recognized at a point in time contemporaneous when the service is performed or with the date of the event.

Payment is typically due in full, at net 30, from the moment control of the goods or services have begun to transfer, unless both parties have negotiated an installment-based payment arrangement through the term of the contract. The Company may have contracts where there is an extended timing difference between payment and the time when control of the goods or services is transferred, or has begun transferring, to the customer.

### Nature of Goods and Services

The following is a description of principal activities from which the Company generates its revenue:

#### *Recruitment Services*

The Company’s recruitment services revenue is derived from the Company’s agreements through single and multiple job postings, recruitment media, talent recruitment communities, basic and premier corporate memberships, hiring campaign marketing and advertising, e-newsletter marketing and research and outreach services. Recruitment revenue includes revenue recognized from direct sales to customers for recruitment services and events, as well as revenue from the Company’s direct e-commerce sales. Direct sales to customers are most typically a twelve-month contract for services and as such the revenue for each contract is recognized ratably over its twelve-month term. Event revenue is recognized in the period that the event takes place and e-commerce sales are for sixty-to-ninety-day job postings and the revenue from those sales are recognized when the service is provided. The Company’s recruitment services mainly consist of the following products:

- On-line job postings to our diversity sites and to our broader network of websites including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Urban League, Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Beta Sigma and many other partner organizations;
- OFCCP job promotion and recordation services;
- Diversity job fairs, both in person and virtual fairs;
- Diversity recruitment job advertising services; and
- Diversity executive staffing services.



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*Membership Fees and Related Services*

Membership fees of longer than one month are collected up-front and member benefits become available immediately; however, those benefits must remain available over the 12-month membership period. At the time of enrollment, membership fees are recorded as deferred revenue and are recognized as revenue ratably over the 12-month membership period. Members who are enrolled in this plan may cancel their membership in the program at any time and receive a partial refund (amount remaining in deferred revenue) or due to consumer protection legislation, a full refund based on the policies of the member's credit card company.

Monthly membership revenues are recognized in the same month fees are collected.

Revenue from related membership services is derived from fees for development and set-up of a member's personal on-line profile and/or press release announcements. Fees related to these services are recognized as revenue at the time the on-line profile is complete and press release is distributed.

Products offered to members relate to custom made plaques. Product sales are recognized as deferred revenue at the time the initial order is placed. Revenue is then recognized at the time these products are shipped. The Company's shipping and handling costs are included in cost of sales in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

*Contracted Software Development*

Revenues for RemoteMore are generated from providing customized software solutions to customers and are recognized in the period work is performed.

*Consumer Advertising and Marketing Solutions*

The Company provides career opportunity services to its various partner organizations through advertising and job postings on their websites. The Company works with its partners to develop customized websites and job boards where the partners can generate advertising, job postings and career services to their members, students and alumni. Consumer advertising and marketing solutions revenue is recognized as jobs are posted to their hosted sites.

**Revenue Concentration**

We, in alliance with another company, partner to sell two recruitment services products. This alliance member previously built, hosted, and managed our job boards and website in addition to billing customers, collecting fees, and providing customer services. For the year ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, the Company recorded approximately 4.6% and 8.1% of its recruitment services revenue from this alliance sales relationship, respectively.

**Disaggregation of revenue**

Revenue is disaggregated by product line and timing of transfer of products and services (see Note 15 - Segment Information).

**Contract Balances**

The Company's rights to consideration for work completed, but not billed at the reporting date, is classified as a receivable, as it has an unconditional right to payment or only conditional for the passage of time. The Company has no recorded contract assets as of December 31, 2024, and 2023.



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Consideration received in advance from customers is recorded as a contract liability, if a contract exists under ASC 606, until services are delivered, or obligations are met and revenue is earned. Contract liability represents the excess of amounts invoiced over amounts recognized as revenues. Contract liabilities to be recognized in the succeeding twelve-month period are classified as current contract liabilities and the remaining amounts, if any, are classified as non-current contract liabilities. Contract liabilities of \$1,842,036 and \$1,999,841 are included in current deferred revenues, on the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023.

For the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, we recognized revenue associated with contract liabilities that were included in the contract liabilities balance at the beginning of the period as follows:

|                                                         | December 31, 2024   | December 31, 2023   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Balance, beginning of period                            | \$ 1,999,841        | \$ 1,925,788        |
| Recognized revenue associated with contract liabilities | (4,820,422)         | (4,977,909)         |
| Amounts collected or invoiced                           | 4,662,617           | 5,051,962           |
| Balance, end of period                                  | <u>\$ 1,842,036</u> | <u>\$ 1,999,841</u> |

Deferred revenue includes customer payments which are received prior to performing services and revenues are recognized upon the completion of these services. Annual membership fees collected at the time of enrollment are recognized as revenue ratably over the membership period, which are typically for a 12-month membership period.

### Transaction price allocated to the remaining performance obligations

The Company applies the optional exemptions and does not disclose: a) information about remaining performance obligations that have an original expected duration of one year or less or b) transaction price allocated to unsatisfied performance obligations for which variable consideration is allocated entirely to a wholly unsatisfied performance obligation or to a wholly unsatisfied promise to transfer a distinct good or service that forms part of a single performance obligation in accordance with the series guidance.

The typical duration of all event related and other contracts is one year or less and, as a result, the Company applies the optional exemptions and does not disclose information about remaining performance obligations that have an original expected duration of one year or less.

## 6. Capitalized Technology

Capitalized Technology, net is as follows:

|                              | December 31,      |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                              | 2024              | 2023              |
| Capitalized cost:            |                   |                   |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ 186,103        | \$ 64,499         |
| Additional capitalized cost  | 242,019           | 181,111           |
| Provision for amortization   | (100,750)         | (59,507)          |
| Balance, end of period       | <u>\$ 327,372</u> | <u>\$ 186,103</u> |

Amortization expense related to capitalized technology of \$100,750 and \$59,507 for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, respectively, is recorded in depreciation and amortization expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

## 7. Intangible Assets

Intangible assets, net is as follows:

| December 31, 2024                                     | Useful Lives<br>(Years) | Gross<br>Carrying<br>Amount | Accumulated<br>Amortization | Net<br>Carrying<br>Amount |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Long-lived intangible assets:                         |                         |                             |                             |                           |
| Sales Process                                         | 10                      | \$ 2,130,956                | \$ (2,130,956)              | \$ -                      |
| Paid Member Relationships                             | 5                       | 803,472                     | (803,472)                   | -                         |
| Member Lists                                          | 5                       | 8,186,181                   | (8,152,848)                 | 33,333                    |
| Developed Technology                                  | 3                       | 648,000                     | (648,000)                   | -                         |
| Trade Name/Trademarks                                 | 4                       | 442,500                     | (442,500)                   | -                         |
| Contracts acquired in RemoteMore acquisition (months) | 3 - 12                  | 1,377,083                   | (1,377,083)                 | -                         |
|                                                       |                         | 13,588,192                  | (13,554,859)                | 33,333                    |
| Indefinite-lived intangible assets:                   |                         |                             |                             |                           |
| Trade name                                            |                         |                             |                             | 101,400                   |
| Intangible assets, net                                |                         |                             |                             | <u>\$ 134,733</u>         |

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| December 31, 2023                                     | Useful Lives<br>(Years) | Gross<br>Carrying<br>Amount | Accumulated<br>Amortization | Net<br>Carrying<br>Amount |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Long-lived intangible assets:                         |                         |                             |                             |                           |
| Sales Process                                         | 10                      | \$ 2,130,956                | \$ (2,073,800)              | \$ 57,156                 |
| Paid Member Relationships                             | 5                       | 803,472                     | (803,472)                   | -                         |
| Member Lists                                          | 5                       | 8,186,181                   | (8,119,514)                 | 66,667                    |
| Developed Technology                                  | 3                       | 648,000                     | (648,000)                   | -                         |
| Trade Name/Trademarks                                 | 4                       | 442,500                     | (441,875)                   | 625                       |
| Contracts acquired in RemoteMore acquisition (months) | 3 - 12                  | 1,377,083                   | (1,377,083)                 | -                         |
|                                                       |                         | 13,588,192                  | (13,463,744)                | 124,448                   |
| Indefinite-lived intangible assets:                   |                         |                             |                             |                           |
| Trade name                                            |                         |                             |                             | 101,400                   |
| Intangible assets, net                                |                         |                             |                             | <u>\$ 225,848</u>         |

Future annual estimated amortization expense is summarized as follows:

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Year ended December 31,</b> |                  |
| 2025                           | \$ 33,333        |
| Net Carrying Amount            | <u>\$ 33,333</u> |

Amortization expense related to intangible assets of \$91,114 and \$551,774 for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, respectively, is recorded in depreciation and amortization expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

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## 8. Long-term Investments

On September 27, 2022, the Company entered into a Stock Purchase Agreement (the “SPA”) with Koala Malta Limited, a private limited liability company registered under the laws of Malta (the “Seller”). Upon the execution of the SPA, the Company purchased 65,700 issued ordinary shares of Koala Crypto Limited (now renamed as QBSG Limited) from Seller, representing 9% of the total issued share capital of QBSG, and in exchange, the Company issued 86,339 shares of its common stock to Seller in a private placement (the “Consideration Shares”) valued at \$1,350,000. As allowed under ASC 321-10-35, the Company has elected to measure the equity investment in QBSG Limited at cost as QBSG Limited is a private company and does not have a readily determinable fair value. The Company evaluates the investment for any impairment annually. The shares of QBSG are recorded in the consolidated balance sheet as ‘other assets’.

Upon execution of the SPA, the Company, the Seller and QBSG also entered into a Shareholders’ Agreement. The Shareholders’ Agreement imposes certain transfer restrictions on the Seller and the Company as shareholders of QBSG, provides for certain governance and approval rights among the parties, and gives the Company a put option with respect to its investment in QBSG in the event of a change of control of the Seller. At the same time, Alan Tak Wai Yau, an individual and the majority shareholder of Koala Capital Limited, which is the parent company of the Seller (“Koala Capital”), provided the Company with a share charge over 15 percent of the issued share capital of Koala Capital (the “Share Charge”) and Koala Capital provided the Company with a guaranty and indemnity (the “Guarantee”), which Share Charge and Guarantee were granted as security for a number of the Seller’s obligations as set forth therein including obtaining the lifting of the voluntary suspension of QBSG’s virtual financial assets license by the Malta Financial Services Authority (“MFSA”). Koala Capital had submitted and responded to all queries raised by the MFSA, and the authorization/supervision unit has approved its application. To enhance the governance of QBSG’s profits and dividends, QBSG has agreed to assign one board seat to the Company’s CEO.

On December 5, 2024, the Company entered into a Profit Participation Agreement (the “PPA”) with Koala Malta Limited, a private limited liability company registered under the laws of Malta (the “Seller”). Upon the execution of the PPA, the Company purchased a 6% right in QBSG Limited (the “Target”, previously Koala Crypto Limited) to receive all distributions and dividends which may be declared and/or distributed by the Target on an annual basis in terms of applicable law, along with all rights, title, and interest from the Seller. The consideration of the Profit Participation is \$1,200,000, including \$700,000 cash and \$500,000 value of the Company’s common stocks, or a total of 113,636 shares at a price of \$4.40 per share. In addition to the 9% share purchase from the Seller in September 2022, the Company now owns the right to receive 15% of all distributions and dividends by the Target.

As the Profit Participation investment does not include the ownership of equity of QBSG Limited, only the right to future distributions, the Profit Participation investment does not meet the criteria to be recorded under ASC 321-10-35 and is subject to fair value accounting standards. As of December 31, 2024, the Company holds a Level 3 investment recorded at a cost of \$1,200,000, representing 6% of all distributions and dividends from QBSG Limited. As of December 31, 2024, Management believes that cost represents fair value as it relates to the Profit Participation valuation as there were no material changes in the underlying company, QBSG Limited between December 5, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

The fair value of the investment is estimated using a combination of valuation methodologies, including Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) analysis, Relative Valuation, and Transaction Comparables. These approaches incorporate significant unobservable inputs, such as projected cash flows, discount rates, market data from publicly traded companies in the crypto infrastructure and digital asset services sectors, as well as data from recent merger and acquisition transactions within the industry.

There was no activity in Level 3 investments other than the acquisition of the Profit Participation investment.

## 9. Accrued Liabilities

As of December 31, 2024, and 2023, accrued liabilities consisted of the following:

|                                    | Ended December 31, |            |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
|                                    | 2024               | 2023       |
| Litigation reserve                 | \$ 450,000         | \$ 450,000 |
| Contractor expenses                | 170,841            | 170,733    |
| Illinois franchise tax             | 94,080             | 100,800    |
| Accrued payroll                    | 78,466             | 88,153     |
| Accrued legal fees                 | 5,500              | -          |
| Accrued Board of Director fees     | 42,499             | 19,500     |
| Accrued revenue sharing agreements | 14,053             | 18,658     |
| Other                              | 8,449              | 20,040     |
| Total accrued liabilities          | \$ 863,888         | \$ 867,884 |

## 10. Commitments and Contingencies

### Lease Obligations

The Company leases its corporate headquarters. The office lease is for 4,902 square feet of office space and the lease term is for 84 months, commencing on October 1, 2020. The Company made approximately \$106,000 and \$104,000 of cash payments for lease expenses related to the office space for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023. The weighted average remaining lease term for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, are 2.75 years and 3.75 years. The weighted average discount rate for operating leases for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, is 6.0%

As of December 31, 2024, the aggregate future lease payments under all operating leases are as follows:

|                                    | Operating  |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 2025                               | \$ 108,457 |
| 2026                               | 110,908    |
| 2027                               | 84,560     |
| Total lease payments               | 303,925    |
| Less: present value discount       | 24,613     |
| Present value of lease liabilities | \$ 279,312 |

As of December 31, 2024, and 2023, right of use assets were \$226,704 and \$298,485, and related lease obligations remaining, related to the Company's office lease, were \$279,312 and \$365,712, as recorded on the Company’s consolidated balance sheets.

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**Other**

As of December 31, 2023, PDN China's bank account held a balance of \$184,055, which was reduced to \$0 by December 31, 2024. In November 2024, these funds were seized by the Guangzhou City authority in connection with alleged illegal fundraising activities involving the Gatewang Group, a company associated with PDN's former CEO, Michael Wang. Following Mr. Wang's detention in December 2019, the Company ceased all operations in China. At present, there are no outstanding matters with the Chinese authorities.

**Legal Proceedings**

The Company and its wholly owned subsidiary, NAPW, Inc., are parties to a proceeding captioned Deborah Bayne, et al. vs. NAPW, Inc. and Professional Diversity Network, Inc., No. 18-cv-3591 (E.D.N.Y.), filed on June 20, 2018, and alleging violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act and certain provisions of the New York Labor Law. The class is defined as "all individuals employed in New York from June 20, 2012 through October 15, 2021 by NAPW and PDN to sell memberships to the women's networking organization known as the National Association of Professional Women and the International Association of Women," excluding corporate officers, shareholders, directors and administrative employees. As it stands, the class currently consists of 164 putative class members and 60 opt-in plaintiffs.

The complaint alleges that NAPW (and PDN in its capacity as an alleged joint employer) violated similar provisions of the FLSA and the NYLL by (i) failing to pay overtime wages as required by both the FLSA and the NYLL, (ii) failing to provide accurate wage statements under the NYLL, and (iii) willfully violating both of those statutes. The Court, in an order issued on March 25, 2024, granted summary judgment against NAPW on the claims related to willful failure to pay overtime wages. The Court dismissed, without prejudice, claims based on failure to provide accurate wage statements under the NYLL based on lack of subject matter jurisdiction. The Court found that questions of fact remain as to whether PDN was a joint employer with NAPW. Damages remain unsettled particularly in light of the Court's dismissal of the Plaintiff's claims related to failure to provide accurate wage statements. During the first quarter of 2020, the Company recorded a \$450,000 litigation settlement reserve in the event of an unfavorable outcome in this proceeding. While the Plaintiff seeks damages substantially in excess of this reserve (including unpaid overtime, liquidated damages and penalties), NAPW and PDN continue to adamantly dispute the amount of damages claimed.

**General Legal Matters**

From time-to-time, the Company is involved in legal matters arising in the ordinary course of business. While the Company believes that such matters are currently not material, there can be no assurance that matters arising in the ordinary course of business for which the Company is, or could be, involved in litigation, will not have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition or results of operations.

**11. CFL Transaction**

On August 12, 2016, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement (the "Purchase Agreement"), with CFL, a Republic of Seychelles company wholly-owned by a group of Chinese investors. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, the Company agreed to issue and sell to CFL, and CFL agreed to purchase, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Purchase Agreement, a number of shares of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), such that CFL would hold shares of Common Stock equal to approximately 51% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock, determined on a fully-diluted basis, after giving effect to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Purchase Agreement.

At the closing of the CFL Transaction, the Company entered into a Stockholders' Agreement, dated November 7, 2016 (the "Stockholders' Agreement") with CFL and each of its shareholders: Maoji (Michael) Wang, Jingbo Song, Yong Xiong Zheng and Nan Kou (the "CFL Shareholders"). The Stockholders' Agreement sets forth the agreement of the Company, CFL and the CFL Shareholders relating to board representation rights, transfer restrictions, standstill provisions, voting, registration rights and other matters following the closing of the Share Issuance and Sale.

On September 22, 2021, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with CFL, in which the Company sold 47,438 shares of its common stock at a price per share of \$21.00 for gross proceeds of approximately \$1,000,000. On October 30, 2021, CFL entered into a transfer stock agreement with a former shareholder of the Company to purchase an additional 37,587 shares of its common stock.

In December 2023, we entered into a stock purchase agreement with CFL, in which we sold 12,267 shares of our common stock at a price per share of \$16.30 for gross proceeds of approximately \$200,000.

As of December 31, 2024, CFL beneficially held 269,227 shares of the Company's outstanding Common Stock equal to approximately 14.8% of the outstanding class.

**12. Stockholders' Equity**

Effective January 5, 2023, the Company filed a certificate of amendment to its Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation in order to implement a 2-for-1 reverse stock split, through which each two shares of common stock issued and outstanding were combined and changed into one share of common stock. All share amounts and share prices in this annual report on Form 10-K have been adjusted to give effect to the reverse stock split.

Effective March 13, 2025, the Company filed a certificate of amendment to its Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation in order to implement a 10-for-1 reverse stock split, through which each ten shares of common stock issued and outstanding were combined and changed into one share of common stock. All share amounts and share prices in this annual report on Form 10-K have been adjusted to give effect to the reverse stock split.

**Preferred Stock** – The Company has no preferred stock issued. The Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws include provisions that allow the Company's Board of Directors to issue, without further action by the stockholders, up to 1,000,000 shares of undesignated preferred stock.

**Common Stock** – The Company has one class of common stock outstanding with a total number of shares authorized of 45,000,000. As of December 31, 2024, the Company had 1,823,275 shares of common stock outstanding.

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In January 2023, in connection with the acquisition of Expo Experts, the Company issued 9,934 shares of its common stock, with a value of \$200,000, to the co-founders of Expo Experts.

In March 2023, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Yiran Gu, a former investor of the Company and a citizen of the People's Republic of China, in connection with the purchase by Yiran Gu of 33,318 shares of our common stock at a price of approximately \$21.00 per share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$700,000.

In June 2023, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Tumim Stone Capital LLC ("Tumim Stone"). Under the terms and subject to the conditions of the stock purchase agreement, we have the right, but not the obligation, to sell to Tumim Stone, and Tumim Stone is obligated to purchase, up to \$12,775,000 worth of newly issued shares (the "Purchase Shares") of our common stock, subject to certain limitations and the satisfaction (or, where permissible, the waiver) of the conditions set forth in the stock purchase agreement. Pursuant to the stock purchase agreement, we issued and sold 46,993 Purchase Shares to Tumim Stone, at a price of \$42.56 per share (representing the average official closing price of the common stock on The Nasdaq Capital Market for the five consecutive trading days ending on the trading day immediately prior to the date of the stock purchase agreement), for aggregate gross proceeds to the Company of \$2,000,000, in an initial purchase (the "Initial Purchase"). Pursuant to the terms of the stock purchase agreement, as consideration for Tumim Stone's commitment to purchase shares of common stock at our direction from time to time, subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in the stock purchase agreement, upon execution of the stock purchase agreement on September 30, 2023, we also issued to Tumim Stone 17,622 shares of common stock (the "Commitment Shares"), valued at \$42.56 per share (the same per share value as each Initial Purchase Share sold in the Initial Purchase), or a total aggregate value equal to \$750,000 for the Commitment Shares. Thereafter, the purchase price of shares that we sell to Tumim Stone under this agreement (other than initial sale under that agreement) is 97% of the lowest daily average of the daily volume weighted average prices of our common stock for the three day period prior to our election to sell shares.

In December 2023, the Company issued multiple purchase notices to Tumim Stone under the stock purchase agreement, through which we sold a combined 27,334 shares of our common stock at an average price of \$17.00 for an aggregated gross proceeds of approximately \$464,300.

In December 2023, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with CFL, in which we sold 12,267 shares of our common stock at a price per share of \$16.30 for gross proceeds of approximately \$200,000.

In the first quarter of 2024, the Company issued 4,022 shares of its common stock to Tumim Stone Capital in connection with its committed equity line program, at a price of approximately \$23.60 per share, resulting in aggregate gross proceeds of \$95,104. In the second quarter of 2024, the Company issued 18,467 shares of its common stock to Tumim Stone Capital in connection with its committed equity line program, at a price range of approximately \$12.70 to \$15.60 per share, resulting in aggregate gross proceeds of \$239,885. In the third quarter of 2024, there was no common stock issuance to Tumim Stone Capital. In the fourth quarter of 2024, the Company issued 5,643 shares of its common stock to Tumim Stone Capital in connection with its committed equity line program, at a price range of approximately \$8.30 per share, resulting in aggregate gross proceeds of \$46,728.

In June, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Eighty-eight Investment LLC, a Delaware limited liability company wholly owned and controlled by Mr. Xin He, our Chief Executive Officer. This purchase of 100,000 shares of our common stock at a price of \$4.95 per share provided aggregate proceeds of \$495,000. The purchase price represented the last consolidated closing bid price on the Nasdaq Capital Market prior to the execution of the agreement, in accordance with the requirements of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635(c) and applicable Nasdaq interpretations.

In September, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Yu Tian, an individual and a resident of the People's Republic of China, in connection with the purchase by Yu Tian of 39,867 shares of common stock at a price of approximately \$3.01 per share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$120,000.

In November, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with a single institutional investor (the "Investor"), in connection with the purchase by the Investor of 140,000 shares of common stock, and 110,000 pre-funded warrants to purchase Common Stock (the "Pre-Funded Warrants") in a registered direct offering (the "Offering") at a price of \$8.00 per share (or \$7.90 per Pre-Funded Warrant) for aggregate gross proceeds of \$1,989,000.

In December 2024, the Company entered into a Profit Participation Agreement with Koala Malta Limited, a private limited liability company registered under the laws of Malta to purchase a 6% right in QBSG Limited to receive all distributions and dividends which may be declared and/or distributed by the QBSG Limited on an annual basis in terms of applicable law, along with all rights, title, and interest from the Koala Malta Limited. The consideration of the Profit Participation is \$1,200,000, including \$700,000 cash and \$500,000 value of the Company's common stocks, or a total of 113,636 shares at a price of \$4.40 per share. In addition to the 9% share purchase from the Seller in September 2022, the Company now owns the right to receive 15% of all distributions and dividends by QBSG Limited.

In December, 2024, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement with Aurous Vertex Limited (the "Investor"), a British Virgin Islands company, in connection with the purchase by the Investor of 250,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$6.00 per share for aggregate gross proceeds of \$1.5 million. In the agreement, Aurous Vertex Limited has an option to purchase an additional 100,000 shares of Common Stock at a subsequent closing. The purchase price per share of the additional 100,000 shares of Common Stock will be the lesser of (a) \$6.00 per share and (b) the closing price of the Common Stock on the date that Investor delivers its written notice to the Company of its election to purchase the Second Closing Shares as described above.

Total shares issued during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

|                                          | Common Stock   |                 | Additional<br>Paid -in Capital | Total Cash<br>Received from<br>Stock<br>Issuances (\$) |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|                                          | Shares         | Amount          |                                |                                                        |
| Tumim Stone Capital LLC                  | 28,131         | \$ 281          | \$ 381,436                     | \$ 381,717                                             |
| 88 Investment                            | 100,000        | 1,000           | 494,000                        | 495,000                                                |
| Yu Tian                                  | 39,867         | 399             | 119,601                        | 120,000                                                |
| Armistice Capital                        | 140,000        | 1,400           | 1,987,600                      | 1,989,000                                              |
| QBSG                                     | 113,636        | 1,136           | 498,864                        | -                                                      |
| Aurous Vetrex                            | 250,000        | 2,500           | 1,497,500                      | 1,500,000                                              |
| Vesting of grants to Board of Directors* | 2,440          | 24              | 95,900                         | -                                                      |
| Grants to management/employees*          | 4,000          | 40              | 79,529                         | -                                                      |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>678,074</b> | <b>\$ 6,780</b> | <b>\$ 5,154,430</b>            | <b>\$ 4,485,717</b>                                    |

\* see Note 13 – Stock-Based Compensation – *Restricted Stock*

### 13. Stock-Based Compensation

**Equity Incentive Plans** – The Company’s 2013 Equity Compensation Plan (the “2013 Plan”) was adopted for the purpose of providing equity incentives to employees, officers, directors and consultants including options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights, other equity awards, annual incentive awards and dividend equivalents. Through a series of amendments to the 2013 Plan, the total number of authorized shares available for issuance of common stock under the Plan was 75,000 shares.

On April 11, 2023, the Board of Directors adopted a new equity incentive plan, the Professional Diversity Network, Inc. 2023 Equity Compensation Plan (the “2023 Equity Compensation Plan”). The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan was approved by the Company’s stockholders on June 15, 2023. The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan supersedes and replaces the 2013 Plan, and no new awards will be granted under the 2013 Plan. Any awards outstanding under the 2013 Plan remain subject to and will be paid under the 2013 Plan. The 2023 Equity Compensation Plan reserves 75,000 shares of common stock for issuance of awards to directors, officers, employees and qualifying consultants of the Company and its affiliates.

#### *Stock Options*

The fair value of options is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The valuation determined by the Black-Scholes pricing model is affected by the Company’s stock price, as well as assumptions regarding a number of highly complex and subjective variables. These variables include, but are not limited to, expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, and actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors. The risk-free rate is based on the U.S. Treasury rate for the expected life at the time of grant, volatility is based on the average long-term implied volatilities of peer companies, the expected life is based on the estimated average of the life of options using the simplified method, and forfeitures are estimated on the date of grant based on certain historical data. The Company utilizes the simplified method to determine the expected life of its options due to insufficient exercise activity during recent years as a basis from which to estimate future exercise patterns. The expected dividend assumption is based on the Company’s history and expectation of dividend payouts.

Forfeitures are required to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates.

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The following table summarizes the Company's stock option activity for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023:

|                                  | Number of<br>Options | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Weighted<br>Average<br>Remaining<br>Contractual<br>Life<br>(in Years) | Aggregate<br>Intrinsic<br>Value<br>(in thousands) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Outstanding - January 1, 2024    | 3,306                | \$ 90.04                                 | 5.7                                                                   | \$ -                                              |
| Granted                          | -                    | -                                        |                                                                       |                                                   |
| Exercised                        | -                    | -                                        |                                                                       |                                                   |
| Forfeited                        | (1,806)              | -                                        |                                                                       |                                                   |
| Outstanding - December 31, 2024  | 1,500                | \$ 44.60                                 | 4.2                                                                   | \$ -                                              |
| Exercisable at December 31, 2024 | 1,500                | \$ 44.60                                 | 4.2                                                                   | \$ -                                              |
|                                  |                      |                                          |                                                                       |                                                   |
|                                  | Number of<br>Options | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Weighted<br>Average<br>Remaining<br>Contractual<br>Life<br>(in Years) | Aggregate<br>Intrinsic<br>Value<br>(in thousands) |
| Outstanding - January 1, 2023    | 3,306                | \$ 90.40                                 | 6.8                                                                   | \$ -                                              |
| Granted                          | -                    | -                                        |                                                                       |                                                   |
| Exercised                        | -                    | -                                        |                                                                       |                                                   |
| Forfeited                        | -                    | -                                        |                                                                       |                                                   |
| Outstanding - December 31, 2023  | 3,306                | \$ 90.04                                 | 5.7                                                                   | \$ -                                              |
| Exercisable at December 31, 2023 | 2,806                | \$ 99.10                                 | 5.5                                                                   | \$ -                                              |

There were no stock options granted in fiscal 2024 or 2023.

The Company recorded non-cash stock-based compensation expense of approximately \$0 and \$10,850 as a component of general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, pertaining to stock options awards.



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***Warrants***

As of December 31, 2024, and 2023, there were no warrants outstanding and exercisable.

***Restricted Stock***

A summary of restricted stock activity for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023 is as follows:

|                                 | Number of<br>Shares |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Outstanding - January 1, 2023   | 6,911               |
| Granted                         | 11,733              |
| Forfeited                       | (1,382)             |
| Vested                          | (5,529)             |
| Outstanding - December 31, 2023 | 11,733              |
| Granted                         | 28,890              |
| Forfeited                       | (4,847)             |
| Vested                          | (11,123)            |
| Outstanding - December 31, 2024 | 24,653              |

During the year ended December 31, 2024 the Company granted 20,653 restricted stock units (“RSUs”) to non-employee directors as partial compensation for their service as a director. The aggregate grant date fair value of the combined awards amounted to approximately \$121,849. The RSU award to the Board member fully vests on the one-year anniversary after the date of grant. The Company also granted 40,000 RSUs to certain officers and managers with immediate vesting. The aggregate grant date fair value of the combined awards amounted to approximately \$23,600.

During the year ended December 31, 2023 the Company granted 3,049 restricted stock units (“RSUs”) to non-employee directors as partial compensation for their service as a director. The aggregate grant date fair value of the combined awards amounted to approximately \$125,000. The RSU award to the Board member fully vests on the one-year anniversary after the date of grant. The Company also granted 8,618 RSUs to certain officers and managers with immediate vesting. The aggregate grant date fair value of the combined awards amounted to approximately \$193,000.

The Company recorded non-cash stock-based compensation expense of approximately \$175,000 and \$300,000 as a component of general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, respectively, pertaining to restricted stock awards.

Total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to unvested restricted stock at December 31, 2024 was approximately \$20,000 and is expected to be recognized through the third quarter of 2025.

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#### 14. Income Taxes

The Company has the following net deferred tax assets and liabilities:

|                                | December 31, |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                | 2024         | 2023         |
| Goodwill and intangible assets | \$ 425,865   | \$ 83,613    |
| Developed technology           | 2,866        | 3,953        |
| Property and equipment         | (12,565)     | (9,970)      |
| Other deferred tax assets      | 320,815      | 264,571      |
| Settlements                    | 121,950      | 121,950      |
| Stock based compensation       | 103,551      | 76,977       |
| Net operating loss             | 10,365,248   | 10,216,313   |
| Valuation allowance            | (11,327,730) | (10,757,407) |
| Net deferred tax liability     | <u>\$ -</u>  | <u>\$ -</u>  |

The benefit for income taxes for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, consists of the following:

|                              | Year Ended December 31, |                     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
|                              | 2024                    | 2023                |
| Federal:                     |                         |                     |
| Current provision            | \$ -                    | \$ -                |
| Deferred tax benefit         | -                       | (110,961)           |
|                              | <u>\$ -</u>             | <u>\$ (110,961)</u> |
| State:                       |                         |                     |
| Current provision            | \$ 6,321                | \$ -                |
| Deferred tax benefit         | -                       | (28,419)            |
|                              | <u>\$ 6,321</u>         | <u>\$ (28,419)</u>  |
| Foreign:                     |                         |                     |
| Current provision            | \$ -                    | \$ -                |
| Deferred provision (benefit) | -                       | -                   |
|                              | <u>\$ -</u>             | <u>\$ -</u>         |
| Income tax expense benefit   | <u>\$ 6,321</u>         | <u>\$ (139,380)</u> |

A reconciliation of the statutory federal income tax rate to the Company's effective tax rate is as follows:

|                                            | Year Ended December 31, |             |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|                                            | 2024                    | 2023        |
| Expected federal statutory rate            | 21.0%                   | 21.0%       |
| State income taxes, net of federal benefit | 6.1%                    | 6.1%        |
| Valuation allowance                        | (21.9)%                 | (17.1)%     |
| Permanent items                            | (1.0)%                  | 0.0%        |
| Other                                      | (4.2)%                  | (6.9)%      |
|                                            | <u>(0.0)%</u>           | <u>3.1%</u> |

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The valuation allowance at December 31, 2024 was \$11,327,730. The net change in the valuation allowance during the year ended December 31, 2024 was an increase of \$570,323. In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred income tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred income tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. Management considers the scheduled reversal of deferred income tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, and tax planning strategies in making this assessment. Based on consideration of these items, management has determined that enough uncertainty exists relative to the realization of the deferred income tax asset balances to warrant the application of a valuation allowance as of December 31, 2024.

At December 31, 2024, the Company had U.S. federal, Illinois, and New York net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$39,550,000, \$21,089,000, and \$11,995,000 respectively. Of the federal amount, \$19,304,000 expires between 2034 and 2038, and \$20,246,000 has an indefinite carryforward period. The Illinois losses may be carried forward 12 years and begin to expire in 2026. The New York losses may be carried forward 20 year and begin to expire in 2035. Certain tax attributes are subject to an annual limitation as a result of changes in ownership as defined under Internal Revenue Code Section 382. The Company files tax returns in multiple jurisdictions and is subject to examination in these jurisdictions. Significant jurisdictions in the U.S. include New York and Illinois.

The U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 provided for a one-time deemed mandatory repatriation of post-1986 undistributed foreign earnings and profit ("E&P") through the year ended December 31, 2017. Due to the seizure of cash, by Chinese local authorities, the Company's undistributed foreign E&P has been reduced to \$0.

## 15. Segment Information

The Company operates in the following segments: (i) TalentAlly Network, which maintains and operates job board software and hosts career fairs, (ii) NAPW Network, a professional networking organization that addresses personal and professional development opportunities for women, (iii) RemoteMore (beginning in fiscal 2021) which provides companies with talented engineers to provide solutions to their software needs and (iv) Corporate Overhead.

The Company's CEO and CFO comprise the executive committee. The responsibility of the executive committee is to collectively assess performance and make resource allocation decisions related to the entity's operating segments. The CEO operates more as a strategic decision maker for the organization as a whole. The executive committee is the CODM because the committee is the highest level of management that performs these functions.

The following tables present key financial information of the Company's reportable segments as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023:

|                                                        | Year Ended December 31, 2024 |                 |            |                       |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                                                        | TalentAlly<br>Network        | NAPW<br>Network | RemoteMore | Corporate<br>Overhead | Consolidated |
| Membership fees and related services                   | \$ -                         | \$ 428,612      | \$ -       | \$ -                  | \$ 428,612   |
| Recruitment services                                   | 4,434,235                    | -               | -          | -                     | 4,434,235    |
| Contracted software development                        | -                            | -               | 1,830,018  | -                     | 1,830,018    |
| Consumer advertising and marketing solutions           | 37,740                       | -               | -          | -                     | 37,740       |
| Total revenues                                         | 4,471,975                    | 428,612         | 1,830,018  | -                     | 6,730,605    |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations               | (41,847)                     | (145,273)       | (313,757)  | (1,904,268)           | (2,405,145)  |
| Depreciation and amortization                          | 145,270                      | 56,695          | 1,836      | -                     | 203,801      |
| Income tax expense (benefit)                           | 5,471                        | -               | 850        | -                     | 6,321        |
| Net income (loss) from continuing operations           | (228,684)                    | (146,535)       | (316,200)  | (1,904,268)           | (2,595,687)  |
| As of December 31, 2024                                |                              |                 |            |                       |              |
| Goodwill                                               | \$ 465,752                   | \$ -            | \$ 952,001 | \$ -                  | \$ 1,417,753 |
| Intangibles assets, net                                | 134,733                      | -               | -          | -                     | 134,733      |
| Assets from continuing operations, net of eliminations | 8,793,043                    | 30,342          | (841,584)  | -                     | 7,981,801    |

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|                                              | Year Ended December 31, 2023 |                 |            |                       |              |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                                              | TalentAlly<br>Network        | NAPW<br>Network | RemoteMore | Corporate<br>Overhead | Consolidated |
| Membership fees and related services         | \$ -                         | \$ 530,745      | \$ -       | \$ -                  | \$ 530,745   |
| Recruitment services                         | 4,639,642                    | -               | -          | -                     | 4,639,642    |
| Contracted software development              | -                            | -               | 2,437,352  | -                     | 2,437,352    |
| Consumer advertising and marketing solutions | 91,298                       | -               | -          | -                     | 91,298       |
| Total revenues                               | 4,730,940                    | 530,745         | 2,437,352  | -                     | 7,699,037    |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations     | (1,484,970)                  | (431,331)       | (281,054)  | (2,341,196)           | (4,538,551)  |
| Depreciation and amortization                | 542,831                      | 79,786          | 1,387      | -                     | 624,004      |
| Income tax expense (benefit)                 | (48,466)                     | (15,873)        | 850        | (75,891)              | (139,380)    |
| Net income (loss) from continuing operations | (1,429,033)                  | (414,121)       | (277,778)  | (2,265,305)           | (4,386,237)  |

  

|                                                        | As of December 31, 2023 |                 |            |                       |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                                                        | TalentAlly<br>Network   | NAPW<br>Network | RemoteMore | Corporate<br>Overhead | Consolidated |
| Goodwill                                               | \$ 465,752              | \$ -            | \$ 952,001 | \$ -                  | \$ 1,417,753 |
| Intangibles assets, net                                | 168,067                 | 57,156          | 625        | -                     | 225,848      |
| Assets from continuing operations, net of eliminations | 6,915,583               | 87,231          | (676,282)  | -                     | 6,326,532    |

## 16. Employee benefit plans

The Company's employee benefit plans currently consist of a defined contribution plan for all U.S. employees. The Company does not offer any other postretirement benefit plans, such as retiree medical and dental benefits or deferred compensation agreements to its employees or officers.

U.S. regular, full-time employees are eligible to participate in the Professional Diversity Network Inc. 401(k) Plan ("PDN Plan"), which is a qualified defined contribution plan under section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Under the PDN Plan, employees are eligible to participate after meeting eligibility requirements and employees are always fully vested in their own contributions. Effective January 1, 2021, the Company has elected to match up to 5% of eligible employee contributions. The contribution expense for the PDN Plan was approximately \$82,000 and \$88,500 for the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, respectively.

## 17. Subsequent Events

On January 26, 2025, the Company entered into a Stock Purchase Agreement (the "SPA") with AI Geometric Ltd, a company organized under the laws of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the "Seller"). Pursuant to the SPA, the Seller agreed to issue and sell 1,300 shares of the Seller to the Company, representing 13% of all issued and outstanding shares of the Seller, at a consideration of \$1,300,000 (the "Transaction"). The board of directors of the Company approved the Transaction on January 17, 2025. The closing of the Transaction took place on January 27, 2025.

As previously disclosed, on June 30, 2023, the Company entered into a Common Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of June 30, 2023 (the "Purchase Agreement") with Tumim Stone Capital LLC (the "Investor"). Under the terms and subject to the conditions of the Purchase Agreement, the Company had the right, but not the obligation, to sell to the Investor, and the Investor was obligated to purchase, up to \$12,775,000 worth of newly issued shares (the "Purchase Shares") of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Common Stock"), subject to certain limitations and the satisfaction (or, where permissible, the waiver) of the conditions set forth in the Purchase Agreement. As of the date of this Current Report on Form 8-K, the Company had issued and sold \$2,846, 017 worth of Purchase Shares under the Purchase Agreement, which were registered on the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-260316). On February 25, 2025, the Company gave notice to the Investor of the Company's decision to terminate the Purchase Agreement in accordance with Section 7.1 thereof, effective on the fifth business day thereafter. Consequently, no further Purchase Shares will be sold under the Purchase Agreement.

On February 25, 2025, the Company entered into a stock purchase agreement (the "SPA") with Boris Krastev Ventures UG (the "Seller"), pursuant to which the Company shall acquire 1,000,000 shares of common stock (the "Acquisition") of RemoteMore USA, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("RemoteMore" or the "Target Company") for a purchase price of \$300,000, which will be paid to the Seller at the closing of the Acquisition through the issuance of 50,000 newly issued restricted shares of the Company's common stock, at a price of \$6.00 per share (the "Shares"). The closing of the Acquisition is subject to satisfaction of certain closing conditions set forth in the SPA. Prior to the Acquisition, the Company held 7,262,500 shares of the Target Company, representing a majority interest in the Target Company. Upon the closing of the Acquisition, the Company's ownership will increase to approximately 82.625% of the Target Company's outstanding shares.

On March 7, 2025, the Company filed a Certificate of Amendment to its Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation with the Secretary of State of Delaware (the "Certificate of Amendment"), which effected the Reverse Stock Split at a ratio of 10-to-1, and such Certificate of Amendment became effective as of 12:01 a.m. ET on March 13, 2025 (the "Effective Time"). As a result of the Reverse Stock Split, every ten shares of Common Stock were combined into one share of Common Stock and the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding reduced from 19,322,748 shares to 1,933,274 shares. Stockholders who otherwise were entitled to receive fractional shares because they held a number of shares not evenly divisible by the ratio of the Reverse Stock Split were automatically entitled to receive cash in lieu of such fractional shares.

On February 25, 2025, the Aurous Vertex Limited delivered a Written Notice to the Company exercising its option to purchase an additional 100,000 shares of Common Stock at a purchase price per share of \$3.385, the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on February 25, 2025. On March 24, 2025, upon the satisfaction or waiver of the closing conditions, the Company issued an additional 100,000 shares of Common Stock to Aurous Vertex Limited.

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## POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOWN ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Xin (Adam) He, and his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this report, and to file the same, with all and any other regulatory authority, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated as of March 31, 2025.

/s/ Xin (Adam) He

Xin (Adam) He  
Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)

/s/ Megan Bozzuto

Megan Bozzuto  
Interim Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)

/s/ Michael Belsky

Michael Belsky  
Director

/s/ Chris Renn

Chris Renn  
Chair of Board, Director

/s/ Katherine Lauderdale

Katherine Lauderdale  
Director

/s/ Ge Yi

Ge Yi  
Director

/s/ Hao Zhang

Hao Zhang  
Chair of Board, Director

Professional Diversity Network, Inc.

Subsidiaries  
As of March 31, 2025

| Subsidiary           | Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Formation |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| NAPW, Inc.           | Delaware                                   |
| RemoteMore USA, Inc. | Delaware                                   |
| TalentAlly, LLC      | Delaware                                   |



**Exhibit 23.1**

**CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

We consent to the incorporation by reference in Registration Statements on Form S-3 [File #333-272156, File #333-269304 and File #333-260316] and Form S-8 [File #333-272702, File #333-265644, File #333-211382 and File #333-203156] of our report dated March 31, 2025, relating to the consolidated financial statements and [financial statement schedules] of Professional Diversity Network, Inc.. Our report contains an explanatory paragraph regarding Professional Diversity Network, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern.

/s/ Sassetti LLC

Oak Brook, IL  
March 31, 2025

**Exhibit 31.1**

**CERTIFICATIONS**

I, Xin (Adam) He, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Professional Diversity Network, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the Registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the Registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the Registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the Registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 31, 2025

/s/ Xin (Adam) He  
Xin (Adam) He  
Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)



**Exhibit 31.2**

**CERTIFICATIONS**

I, Megan Bozzuto, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Professional Diversity Network, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the Registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the Registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the Registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the Registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 31, 2025

*/s/ Megan Bozzuto*

Megan Bozzuto  
Interim Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18  
U.S.C. SECTION 1350

In connection with the Annual Report of Professional Diversity Network, Inc. (the “Registrant”) on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “report”), I, Xin (Adam) He, Chief Executive Officer of the Registrant, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Registrant.

Dated: March 31, 2025

/s/ Xin (Adam) He  
*Xin (Adam) He*  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
*(Principal Executive Officer)*

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18  
U.S.C. SECTION 1350

In connection with the Annual Report of Professional Diversity Network, Inc. (the “Registrant”) on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “report”), I, Megan Bozzuto, Interim Chief Financial Officer of the Registrant, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, that to my knowledge:

- (1) The report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Registrant.

Dated: March 31, 2025

*/s/ Megan Bozzuto*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Megan Bozzuto*  
*Interim Chief Financial Officer*  
*(Principal Financial Officer)*

**PROFESSIONAL DIVERSITY NETWORK, INC.  
POLICY FOR THE RECOVERY OF ERRONEOUSLY AWARDED COMPENSATION**

**A. OVERVIEW**

In accordance with the applicable rules of The Nasdaq Stock Market (the “*Nasdaq Rules*”), Section 10D of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “*Exchange Act*”) and Rule 10D-1 promulgated thereunder (“*Rule 10D-1*”), the Board of Directors (the “*Board*”) of Professional Diversity Network, Inc. (the “*Company*”) has adopted this Policy (the “*Policy*”) to provide for the recovery of erroneously awarded Incentive-based Compensation from Executive Officers. All capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in Section H, below.

**B. RECOVERY OF ERRONEOUSLY AWARDED COMPENSATION**

- (1) In the event of an Accounting Restatement, the Company will reasonably promptly recover the Erroneously Awarded Compensation Received in accordance with Nasdaq Rules and Rule 10D-1 as follows:
  - (i) After an Accounting Restatement, the Compensation Committee of the Board (the “*Committee*”) shall determine the amount of any Erroneously Awarded Compensation Received by each Executive Officer and shall promptly provide each Executive Officer with a written notice containing the amount of any Erroneously Awarded Compensation and a demand for repayment or return of such compensation, as applicable.
    - (a) For Incentive-based Compensation based on (or derived from) the Company’s stock price or total shareholder return, where the amount of Erroneously Awarded Compensation is not subject to mathematical recalculation directly from the information in the applicable Accounting Restatement:
      - i. The amount to be repaid or returned shall be determined by the Committee based on a reasonable estimate of the effect of the Accounting Restatement on the Company’s stock price or total shareholder return upon which the Incentive-based Compensation was Received; and
      - ii. The Company shall maintain documentation of the determination of such reasonable estimate and provide the relevant documentation as required to the Nasdaq.
  - (ii) The Committee shall have discretion to determine the appropriate means of recovering Erroneously Awarded Compensation based on the particular facts and circumstances. Notwithstanding the foregoing, except as set forth in Section B(2) below, in no event may the Company accept an amount that is less than the amount of Erroneously Awarded Compensation in satisfaction of an Executive Officer’s obligations hereunder.
  - (iii) To the extent that the Executive Officer has already reimbursed the Company for any Erroneously Awarded Compensation Received under any duplicative recovery obligations established by the Company or applicable law, it shall be appropriate for any such reimbursed amount to be credited to the amount of Erroneously Awarded Compensation that is subject to recovery under this Policy.
  - (iv) To the extent that an Executive Officer fails to repay all Erroneously Awarded Compensation to the Company when due, the Company shall take all actions reasonable and appropriate to recover such Erroneously Awarded Compensation from the applicable Executive Officer. The applicable Executive Officer shall be required to reimburse the Company for any and all expenses reasonably incurred (including legal fees) by the Company in recovering such Erroneously Awarded Compensation in accordance with the immediately preceding sentence.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Company shall not be required to take the actions contemplated by Section B(1) above if the Committee (which, as specified above, is composed entirely of independent directors or in the absence of such a committee, a majority of the independent directors serving on the Board) determines that recovery would be impracticable and any of the following two conditions are met:
  - (i) The Committee has determined that the direct expenses paid to a third party to assist in enforcing the Policy would exceed the amount to be recovered. Before making this determination, the Company must make a reasonable attempt to recover the Erroneously Awarded Compensation, documented such attempt(s) and provided such documentation to the Nasdaq; or
  - (ii) Recovery would likely cause an otherwise tax-qualified retirement plan, under which benefits are broadly available to employees of the Company, to fail to meet the requirements of Section 401(a)(13) or Section 411(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and regulations thereunder.

**C. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS**

The Company shall file all disclosures with respect to this Policy required by applicable U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“*SEC*”) filings and rules.

**D. PROHIBITION OF INDEMNIFICATION**

The Company shall not be permitted to insure or indemnify any Executive Officer against (i) the loss of any Erroneously Awarded Compensation that is repaid, returned or recovered pursuant to the terms of this Policy, or (ii) any claims relating to the Company’s enforcement of its rights under this Policy. Further, the Company shall not enter into any agreement that exempts any Incentive-based Compensation that is granted, paid or awarded to an Executive Officer from the application of this Policy or that waives the Company’s right to recovery of any Erroneously Awarded Compensation, and this Policy shall supersede any such agreement (whether entered into before, on or after the Effective Date of this Policy).

By signing the Acknowledgement Form, each Executive Officer irrevocably agrees never to institute any claim against the Company or any affiliate, knowingly and voluntarily waives the Executive Officer’s ability, if any, to bring any such claim, and releases the Company and any affiliate from any such claim, for indemnification with respect to any expenses (including attorneys’ fees), judgments or amounts of compensation repaid or forfeited by the Executive Officer in connection with the application or enforcement of this Policy; and if, notwithstanding the foregoing, any such claim for indemnification is allowed by a court of competent jurisdiction, then the Executive Officer shall be deemed irrevocably to have agreed not to pursue such claim and hereby agrees to execute any and all documents necessary to request dismissal or withdrawal of such claim.

## E. ADMINISTRATION AND INTERPRETATION

This Policy shall be administered by the Committee, and any determinations made by the Committee shall be final and binding on all affected individuals.

The Committee is authorized to interpret and construe this Policy and to make all determinations necessary, appropriate, or advisable for the administration of this Policy and for the Company's compliance with Nasdaq Rules, Section 10D, Rule 10D-1 and any other applicable law, regulation, rule or interpretation of the SEC or Nasdaq promulgated or issued in connection therewith.

## F. AMENDMENT; TERMINATION

The Committee may amend this Policy from time to time in its discretion and shall amend this Policy as it deems necessary. Notwithstanding anything in this Section F to the contrary, no amendment or termination of this Policy shall be effective if such amendment or termination would (after taking into account any actions taken by the Company contemporaneously with such amendment or termination) cause the Company to violate any federal securities laws, SEC rule or Nasdaq rule.

## G. OTHER RECOVERY RIGHTS

This Policy shall be binding and enforceable against all Executive Officers and, to the extent required by applicable law or guidance from the SEC or Nasdaq, their beneficiaries, heirs, executors, administrators or other legal representatives. The Committee intends that this Policy will be applied to the fullest extent required by applicable law. The Committee shall require each Executive Officer serving as such from time to time to sign and return to the Company Acknowledgement Form, pursuant to which the Executive Officer will affirmatively agree to be bound by, and to comply with, the terms and conditions of this Policy; provided, that any failure of the Committee to obtain such Acknowledgement Form shall have no impact on the applicability or enforceability of this Policy. Further, any employment agreement, equity award agreement, compensatory plan or any other agreement or arrangement with an Executive Officer shall be deemed to include, as a condition to the grant of any benefit thereunder, an agreement by the Executive Officer to abide by the terms of this Policy. Any right of recovery under this Policy is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies or rights of recovery that may be available to the Company under applicable law, regulation or rule or pursuant to the terms of any policy of the Company or any provision in any employment agreement, equity award agreement, compensatory plan, agreement or other arrangement.

## H. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Policy is determined to be unenforceable or invalid under any applicable law, such provision will be applied to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law and shall automatically be deemed amended in a manner consistent with its objectives to the extent necessary to conform to any limitations required under applicable law.

## I. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Policy, the following capitalized terms shall have the meanings set forth below.

- (1) **"Accounting Restatement"** means an accounting restatement due to the material noncompliance of the Company with any financial reporting requirement under the securities laws, including any required accounting restatement to correct an error in previously issued financial statements that is material to the previously issued financial statements (a "Big R" restatement), or that would result in a material misstatement if the error were corrected in the current period or left uncorrected in the current period (a "little r" restatement). An Accounting Restatement does not include situations in which financial statement changes did not result from material non-compliance with financial reporting requirements, such as, but not limited to retrospective: (i) application of a change in accounting principles; (ii) revision to reportable segment information due to a change in the structure of the Company's internal organization; (iii) reclassification due to a discontinued operation; (iv) application of a change in reporting entity, such as from a reorganization of entities under common control; and (v) revision for stock splits, stock dividends, reverse stock splits or other changes in capital structure. An Accounting Restatement also does not include out-of-period adjustments that are immaterial to both the current and prior periods. The determination of whether the restatement is due to material non-compliance with any financial reporting requirement shall be based on facts and circumstances and existing judicial and administrative interpretations.
- (2) **"Acknowledgement Form"** means an Attestation and Acknowledgement of Policy for the Recovery of Erroneously Awarded Compensation in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A (or in such other form as may be prescribed by the Committee from time to time).
- (3) **"Clawback Eligible Incentive Compensation"** means all Incentive-based Compensation Received by an Executive Officer (i) on or after October 2, 2023, (ii) after beginning service as an Executive Officer, (iii) who served as an Executive Officer at any time during the applicable performance period relating to any Incentive-based Compensation (whether or not such Executive Officer is serving at the time the Erroneously Awarded Compensation is required to be repaid to the Company), (iv) while the Company has a class of securities listed on a national securities exchange or a national securities association, and (v) during the applicable Clawback Period.
- (4) **"Clawback Period"** means, with respect to any Accounting Restatement, the three completed fiscal years of the Company immediately preceding the Restatement Date, and if the Company changes its fiscal year, any transition period of less than nine months within or immediately following those three completed fiscal years.
- (5) **"Erroneously Awarded Compensation"** means, with respect to each Executive Officer in connection with an Accounting Restatement, the amount of Clawback Eligible Incentive Compensation that exceeds the amount of Incentive-based Compensation that otherwise would have been Received had it been determined based on the restated amounts, computed without regard to any taxes paid.
- (6) **"Executive Officer"** means each individual who is currently or was previously designated as an "officer" of the Company as defined in Rule 16a-1(f) under the Exchange Act. For the avoidance of doubt, the identification of an executive officer for purposes of this Policy shall include each executive officer who is or was identified pursuant to Item 401(b) of Regulation S-K, as well as the principal financial officer and principal accounting officer (or, if there is no principal accounting officer, the controller).
- (7) **"Financial Reporting Measures"** means measures that are determined and presented in accordance with the accounting principles used in preparing the Company's financial statements, and all other measures that are derived wholly or in part from such measures. Stock price and total shareholder return (and any measures that are derived wholly or in part from stock price or total shareholder return) shall, for purposes of this Policy, be considered Financial Reporting Measures. For the avoidance of doubt, a Financial Reporting Measure need not be presented in the Company's financial statements or included in a filing with the SEC.
- (8) **"Incentive-based Compensation"** means any compensation that is granted, earned or vested based wholly or in part upon the attainment of a Financial

Reporting Measure; however it does not include: (i) base salaries; (ii) discretionary cash bonuses; (iii) awards (either cash or equity) that are based upon subjective, strategic or operational standards; and (iv) equity awards that vest solely based on the passage of time.

(9) “**Nasdaq**” means The Nasdaq Stock Market.

(10) “**Received**” means, with respect to any Incentive-based Compensation, actual or deemed receipt, and Incentive-based Compensation shall be deemed received in the Company’s fiscal period during which the Financial Reporting Measure specified in the Incentive-based Compensation award is attained, even if the payment or grant of the Incentive-based Compensation to the Executive Officer occurs after the end of that period.

(11) “**Restatement Date**” means the earlier to occur of (i) the date the Board, a committee of the Board or the officers of the Company authorized to take such action if Board action is not required, concludes, or reasonably should have concluded, that the Company is required to prepare an Accounting Restatement, or (ii) the date a court, regulator or other legally authorized body directs the Company to prepare an Accounting Restatement.

Adopted by the Board on November 30, 2023.

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## Exhibit A

### ATTESTATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF POLICY FOR THE RECOVERY OF ERRONEOUSLY AWARDED COMPENSATION

By my signature below, I acknowledge and agree that:

- I have received and read the attached Policy for the Recovery of Erroneously Awarded Compensation (this “**Policy**”).
- I hereby agree to abide by and comply with all of the terms of this Policy both during and after my employment with the Company, including, without limitation, by promptly repaying or returning any Erroneously Awarded Compensation to the Company as determined in accordance with this Policy.
- I also agree that my obligation to repay any Erroneously Awarded Compensation shall be absolute and unconditional, irrespective of any defense or any rights of set-off, recovery or counterclaim I might otherwise have against the Company. In this regard, I voluntarily, irrevocably and unconditionally waive any objection to, or any claim for damages or loss related to, the Company pursuing any method of recovery of Erroneously Awarded Compensation that is deemed appropriate by the Committee in its sole discretion.
- I agree that any applicable award agreement or other document setting forth the terms and conditions of any Incentive-based Compensation granted to me by the Company shall be deemed to include the restrictions imposed by the Policy, whether granted before or after the effective date of the Policy. In the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of the Policy and the applicable award agreement or other document setting forth the terms and conditions of any Incentive-based Compensation granted to me, the terms of the Policy shall govern.
- I further acknowledge and agree that in no event shall any of the terms of the Policy, or any action taken the Company to enforce its rights under the Policy, be deemed to constitute “good reason” for purposes of determining any right I may otherwise have to receive any severance or other benefits under any Company plan, policy, agreement or arrangement in connection with the termination of my employment.
- My execution of this Acknowledgement Form is in consideration of, and is a condition to, my opportunity to participate in, and receive future awards under, any Incentive-based Compensation programs the Company may maintain from time to time; provided, however, that nothing in this Acknowledgement Form or the Policy shall be deemed to obligate the Company to make any specific Incentive-based Compensation awards in the future.