

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, DC 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**For the Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2021**

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 1-5620

**Safeguard Scientifics, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Pennsylvania  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

23-1609753  
(I.R.S. Employer ID No.)

150 N. Radnor Chester Road  
Suite F-200  
Radnor, PA  
(Address of principal executive offices)

19087  
(Zip Code)

(610) 293-0600

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
common stock, par value \$0.10	SFE	New York Stock Exchange

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", "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer

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 financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

Number of shares outstanding as of May 4, 2021  
Common Stock 20,957,572

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**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q**  
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**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(Unaudited - In thousands, except share data)

	<u>March 31, 2021</u>	<u>December 31, 2020</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 21,750	\$ 15,601
Restricted cash	25	—
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	588	462
Total current assets	<u>22,363</u>	<u>16,063</u>
Property and equipment, net	1,736	1,790
Ownership interests and advances	62,593	50,398
Other assets	292	784
Total Assets	<u>\$ 86,984</u>	<u>\$ 69,035</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 18	\$ 56
Accrued compensation and benefits	3,045	2,677
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	577	410
Lease liability - current	338	327
Total current liabilities	<u>3,978</u>	<u>3,470</u>
Lease liability - non-current	1,964	2,053
Other long-term liabilities	50	637
Total Liabilities	<u>5,992</u>	<u>6,160</u>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 9)		
Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.10 par value; 1,000 shares authorized	—	—
Common stock, \$0.10 par value; 83,333 shares authorized; 21,573 shares issued at March 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020	2,157	2,157
Additional paid-in capital	807,111	807,582
Treasury stock, at cost; 630 and 688 shares at March 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, respectively	(9,237)	(10,200)
Accumulated deficit	(719,014)	(736,639)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(25)	(25)
Total Equity	<u>80,992</u>	<u>62,875</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$ 86,984</u>	<u>\$ 69,035</u>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(Unaudited - In thousands, except share and per share data)

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
General and administrative expense	\$ 2,463	\$ 3,532
Operating loss	(2,463)	(3,532)
Other income (loss), net	706	(3,567)
Interest income	53	105
Equity income (loss), net	19,329	(9,014)
Net income (loss) before income taxes	17,625	(16,008)
Income tax benefit (expense)	—	—
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 17,625</u>	<u>\$ (16,008)</u>
Net income (loss) per share:		
Basic	\$ 0.84	\$ (0.77)
Diluted	\$ 0.84	\$ (0.77)
Weighted average shares used in computing income (loss) per share:		
Basic	20,902	20,686
Diluted	20,930	20,686

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(Unaudited – In thousands)

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</b>		
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (2,157)	\$ (2,551)
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>		
Proceeds from sales of ownership interests	9,419	708
Acquisitions of ownership interests	—	(1,000)
Advances and loans to ownership interests	(1,000)	(1,241)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	8,419	(1,533)
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities:</b>		
Tax withholdings related to equity-based awards	(88)	(11)
Net cash used in financing activities	(88)	(11)
Net change in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	6,174	(4,095)
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of period	15,601	25,053
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of period	\$ 21,775	\$ 20,958

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
(Unaudited – In thousands, except share data)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Accumulated Deficit</u>	<u>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss</u>	<u>Common Stock</u>		<u>Additional Paid-in Capital</u>	<u>Treasury Stock</u>	
				<u>Shares</u>	<u>Amount</u>		<u>Shares</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Balance - December 31, 2020</b>	\$ 62,875	\$ (736,639)	\$ (25)	21,573	\$ 2,157	\$ 807,582	688	\$ (10,200)
Net income	17,625	17,625	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted stock awards, forfeitures and shares repurchased for tax withholdings, net	370	—	—	—	—	(593)	(58)	963
Stock-based compensation expense	122	—	—	—	—	122	—	—
<b>Balance - March 31, 2021</b>	<u>\$ 80,992</u>	<u>\$ (719,014)</u>	<u>\$ (25)</u>	<u>21,573</u>	<u>\$ 2,157</u>	<u>\$ 807,111</u>	<u>630</u>	<u>\$ (9,237)</u>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
(Unaudited – In thousands)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Accumulated Deficit</u>	<u>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss</u>	<u>Common Stock</u>		<u>Additional Paid-in Capital</u>	<u>Treasury Stock</u>	
				<u>Shares</u>	<u>Amount</u>		<u>Shares</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Balance - December 31, 2019</b>	\$ 101,741	\$ (697,223)	\$ (25)	21,573	\$ 2,157	\$ 810,856	930	\$ (14,024)
Net loss	(16,008)	(16,008)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted stock awards, forfeitures and shares repurchased for tax withholdings, net	72	—	—	—	—	(32)	(6)	104
Stock-based compensation expense	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
<b>Balance - March 31, 2020</b>	<u>\$ 85,808</u>	<u>\$ (713,231)</u>	<u>\$ (25)</u>	<u>21,573</u>	<u>\$ 2,157</u>	<u>\$ 810,827</u>	<u>924</u>	<u>\$ (13,920)</u>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.



**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(unaudited)**

**1. General**

The accompanying unaudited interim Consolidated Financial Statements of Safeguard Scientifics, Inc. (“Safeguard” or the “Company”) were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and the interim financial statement rules and regulations of the SEC. In the opinion of management, these statements include all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of the Consolidated Financial Statements. The interim operating results are not necessarily indicative of the results for a full year or for any interim period. Certain information and note disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations relating to interim financial statements. The Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included elsewhere in this Form 10-Q and with the Company’s Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included in the Company’s 2020 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

***Liquidity***

As of March 31, 2021 the Company had \$21.8 million of cash and cash equivalents.

In January 2018, Safeguard announced that, from that date forward, the Company will not deploy any capital into new opportunities and will focus on supporting our existing companies and maximizing monetization opportunities to return value to shareholders. In that context, the Company has, is and will consider initiatives including, among others: the sale of individual ownership interests, the sale of certain or all ownership interests in secondary market transactions, or a combination thereof, as well as other opportunities to maximize shareholder value. As we seek to provide additional funding to existing companies where we have an ownership interest, we may be required to expend our cash or incur debt, which will decrease our liquidity. From time to time, we are engaged in discussions concerning acquisitions and dispositions which, if consummated, could impact our liquidity, perhaps significantly. Accordingly, the Company could also pursue other sources of capital in order to maintain its liquidity.

The Company believes that its cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2021 will be sufficient to fund operations past one year from the issuance of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATE**  
**D FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Principles of Accounting for Ownership Interests**

The Company accounts for its ownership interests using one of the following methods: Equity or Other. The accounting method applied is generally determined by the degree of the Company's influence over the entity, primarily determined by our voting interest in the entity.

In addition to holding voting and non-voting equity, the Company also periodically makes advances to its companies in the form of promissory notes which are included in the Ownership interests and advances on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

*Equity Method.* The Company accounts for ownership interests whose results are not consolidated, but over which it exercises significant influence, under the equity method of accounting. Whether or not the Company exercises significant influence with respect to an ownership interest depends on the evaluation of several factors including, among others, representation on the board of directors and our ownership level, which is generally a 20% to 50% interest in the voting securities of a company, including voting rights associated with the Company's holdings in common, preferred and other convertible instruments in the company. Under the equity method of accounting, the Company does not reflect a company's financial statements within our Consolidated Financial Statements; however, our share of the income or loss of such company is reflected in Equity income (loss), net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. The Company includes the carrying value of equity method companies in Ownership interests and advances on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Any excess of the Company's cost over its underlying interest in the net assets of equity method companies that is allocated to intangible assets is amortized over the estimated useful lives of the related intangible assets. The Company reflects its share of the income or loss of the equity method companies on a one quarter lag. This reporting lag could result in a delay in recognition of the impact of changes in the business or operations of these companies.

When the Company's carrying value in an equity method company is reduced to zero, the Company records no further losses in its Consolidated Statements of Operations unless the Company has an outstanding guarantee obligation or has committed additional funding to such equity method company. When such equity method company subsequently reports income, the Company will not record its share of such income until it exceeds the amount of the Company's share of losses not previously recognized.

*Other Method.* We account for our equity interests in companies which are not accounted for under the equity method as equity securities without readily determinable fair values. We estimate the fair value of these securities based on our original cost less impairments, if any, plus or minus changes resulting from observable price changes in orderly transactions for the identical or a similar interest of the same issuer. Under this method, our share of the income or losses of such companies is not included in our Consolidated Statements of Operations, however, the result of observable price changes, if any, are reflected in Other income (loss), net. We include the carrying value of these interests in Ownership interests and advances on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

**Impairment of Ownership Interests and Advances**

On a periodic basis, but no less frequently than quarterly, the Company evaluates the carrying value of its ownership interests and advances for possible impairment based on achievement of business plan objectives and milestones, the estimated fair value of each company relative to its carrying value, the financial condition and prospects of the company and other relevant factors. The business plan objectives and milestones the Company considers include, among others, those related to financial performance, such as achievement of planned financial results or completion of capital raising activities, and those that are not primarily financial in nature, such as hiring of key employees or the establishment of strategic relationships.

Management then determines whether there has been an other than temporary decline in the value of its ownership interest in the company. Impairment is measured as the amount by which the carrying value of an asset exceeds its estimated fair value.

The estimated fair value of privately held companies is generally determined based on the value at which independent third parties have invested or have committed to invest in these companies or based on other valuation methods, including discounted cash flows, valuation of comparable public companies and the valuation of acquisitions of similar companies.

Impairment charges related to equity method companies are included in Equity income (loss), net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Impairment charges related to non-equity method companies and funds are included in Other income (loss), net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

The reduced cost basis of a previously impaired company accounted for using the Equity method is not written-up even if circumstances suggest the value of the company has subsequently recovered.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**2. Ownership Interests and Advances**

The following summarizes the carrying value of the Company's ownership interests and advances.

	<u>March 31, 2021</u>	<u>December 31, 2020</u>
	<u>(Unaudited - In thousands)</u>	
Equity Method:		
Companies	\$ 27,541	\$ 27,550
Private equity funds	271	271
	<u>27,812</u>	<u>27,821</u>
Other Method:		
Companies	32,833	19,683
Private equity funds	268	268
	<u>33,101</u>	<u>19,951</u>
Advances to companies	1,680	2,626
	<u>\$ 62,593</u>	<u>\$ 50,398</u>

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, Zipnosis, Inc. was acquired by another entity. The Company received \$3.3 million in initial cash proceeds and \$15.3 million in preferred equity in the acquiror in connection with this transaction. This ownership interest represents a security that does not have a readily determinable fair value. Due to the inherent uncertainty of determining the fair value of ownership interests that do not have a readily determinable fair value, this estimated value may differ significantly from the value that would have been reported had a ready market for the security existed, and it is reasonably possible that the difference could be material. The Company recognized a \$17.0 million gain on the sale, which is included in Equity income (loss), net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. The fair value of the ownership interests received as a result of the acquisition was estimated based on evaluating several valuation methods available, including the value at which independent third parties have recently invested, the valuation of comparable public companies, and the present value of our expected outcomes. Assumptions considered within these methods include determining which public companies are comparable, projecting forward revenues, selecting an appropriate valuation multiple, discounts to apply for the lack of marketability or lack of comparability, other factors and the relative weight to apply to each valuation method available. Due to the unobservable nature of some of these inputs, we have determined this estimate to be Level 3 fair value measurements. Our ownership interest in the acquiror will be accounted for under the Other method, as such in subsequent periods it could be subject to observable price changes or impairment if our estimated fair value declines.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, WebLinc, Inc. was acquired by another entity. The Company received \$3.2 million in initial cash proceeds and may receive additional amounts over the next 24 months based on certain transactional performance activities, which could be partially offset by indemnifiable claims. The Company recognized a \$0.5 million initial loss on the sale, which is included in Equity income (loss). To the extent additional amounts are collected as contingencies are resolved, those amounts will be recorded as gain on the sale and included within Equity income (loss). QuanticMind was acquired during the first quarter by another entity, however there were no resultant proceeds to the Company. There was no resulting gain or loss due to this equity method ownership interest being impaired during the prior year.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, the Company's ownership interest in T-REX Group, Inc. was acquired for \$3.0 million in cash, which was accounted for under the Other method. The Company recognized a \$0.7 million gain, which is included in Other income (loss), net. Hoopla was also acquired during the first quarter by another entity, however there were no resultant proceeds to the Company. There was no resulting gain or loss due to this Other method ownership interest being impaired during the prior year.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

***Summarized Financial Information***

The following table summarizes the statement of operations data for the companies accounted for under the equity method for the three months ended March 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. These results have been compiled from the respective companies' financial statements, reflect certain historical adjustments, and are reported on a one quarter lag basis. Results of operations of the companies are excluded for periods prior to their acquisition, subsequent to their disposition and subsequent to the discontinuation of equity method of accounting. Historical results are not adjusted when the Company exits, writes-off or discontinues the equity method of accounting.

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>(Unaudited - In thousands)</b>	
<b>Results of Operations:</b>		
Revenue	\$ 40,168	\$ 47,414
Gross profit	\$ 28,228	\$ 29,506
Net loss	\$ (23,021)	\$ (14,604)

**3. Acquisitions of Ownership Interests**

The following is a summary of additional deployments during the three month period ended March 31, 2021:

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, Syapse raised \$68 million of preferred equity which reduced the Company's ownership interest to approximately 11%. The Company recorded a \$7.3 million dilution gain as a result of this transaction, which is included in Equity income (loss), net in the Consolidated Statements of Operation. Syapse drives healthcare transformation through precision medicine, enabling provider systems to improve clinical outcomes, streamline operations, and shift to new payment models.

The Company funded an additional \$1.0 million of convertible loans to Trice Medical, Inc. The Company had previously deployed an aggregate of \$10.8 million. Trice is focused on orthopedic diagnostics using fully integrated camera-enabled technologies to provide clinical solutions to physicians.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**4. Fair Value Measurements**

The Company categorizes its financial instruments into a three-level fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). If the inputs used to measure fair value fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the category level is based on the lowest priority level input that is significant to the fair value measurement of the instrument.

Cash and cash equivalents and accounts payable approximate fair value due to their short term nature. The Company did not have any Level 2 or Level 3 financial assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of March 31, 2021 or December 31, 2020.

**5. Stock-Based Compensation**

Stock-based compensation expense was recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Operations as follows:

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>(Unaudited - In thousands)</b>	
General and administrative expense	\$ 245	\$ 86
	\$ 245	\$ 86

During the three months ended March 31, 2021 and 2020, the Company granted 11 thousand and 7 thousand restricted stock awards, respectively to non-employee directors for compensation.

**6. Income Taxes**

The Company recorded no consolidated income tax benefit (expense) for the three months ended March 31, 2021 and 2020. The Company has recorded a valuation allowance to reduce its net deferred tax asset to an amount that is more likely than not to be realized in future years. Accordingly, the tax provision that would have been recognized in the three months ended March 31, 2021 was offset by changes in the valuation allowance. During the three months ended March 31, 2021, the Company had no material changes in uncertain tax positions.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**7. Net Income (Loss) Per Share**

The calculations of net income (loss) per share were as follows:

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>(Unaudited - In thousands, except per share data)</b>	
<b>Basic:</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 17,625	\$ (16,008)
Weighted average common shares outstanding	20,902	20,686
Net income (loss) per share	\$ 0.84	\$ (0.77)
<b>Diluted:</b>		
Net income (loss) for dilutive share computation	\$ 17,625	\$ (16,008)
Number of shares used in basic per share computation	20,902	20,686
Unvested restricted stock and DSU's	28	—
Employee stock options	—	—
Weighted average common shares outstanding	20,930	20,686
Net income (loss) per dilutive share	\$ 0.84	\$ (0.77)

Basic and diluted average common shares outstanding for purposes of computing net income (loss) per share includes outstanding common shares and vested deferred stock units (DSUs).

If an equity method company has dilutive stock options, unvested restricted stock, DSUs or warrants, diluted net income (loss) per share is computed by first deducting the income attributable to the potential exercise of the dilutive securities of the company from net income (loss). Any impact is shown as an adjustment to net income (loss) for purposes of calculating diluted net income (loss) per share.

Diluted earnings per share do not reflect the following potential shares of common stock that would have an anti-dilutive effect or have unsatisfied performance or market conditions:

- At March 31, 2021 and 2020, options to purchase 45 thousand and 179 thousand shares of common stock, respectively, at prices ranging from \$10.37 to \$17.11 and \$10.37 to \$18.45, respectively, were excluded from the calculations.
- At March 31, 2021 and 2020, unvested restricted stock, performance-based stock units and DSUs convertible into 0.3 million and 0.3 million shares of stock, respectively, were excluded from the calculations.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**8. Segment Reporting**

The Company operates as one operating segment based upon the similar nature of its technology-driven companies, the functional alignment of the organizational structure, and the reports that are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker for the purpose of assessing performance and allocating resources. As of March 31, 2021, the Company held ownership interests accounted for using the equity method in 9 non-consolidated companies.

Certain of the Company's ownership interests as of March 31, 2021 included the following:

Company Name	Safeguard Primary Ownership as of March 31, 2021	Accounting Method
Aktana, Inc.	15.0%	Equity
Bright Health Group	*	Other
Clutch Holdings, Inc.	42.3%	Equity
Flashtalking	13.2%	Other
InfoBionic, Inc.	25.2%	Equity
Lumesis, Inc.	43.4%	Equity
MediaMath, Inc.	13.3%	Other
meQuilibrium	32.0%	Equity
Moxe Health Corporation	27.6%	Equity
Prognos Health Inc.	28.5%	Equity
Syapse, Inc.	11.1%	Equity
Trice Medical, Inc.	16.6%	Equity

\*not disclosed

As of March 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, all of the Company's assets were located in the United States.

**SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**9. Commitments and Contingencies**

In March 2019, the Company entered into a sublease of its prior corporate headquarters office space beginning in June 2019. The term of the sublease is through April 2026, the same as the Company's underlying lease. Fixed sublease payments to the Company are escalating over the term of the sublease and are reported as a component of general and administrative expenses.

A summary of the Company's operating lease cash flows at March 31, 2021 follows:

	<u>Operating lease payments</u>	<u>Expected sublease receipts</u>
	<u>(Unaudited - In thousands)</u>	
2021 (nine months ending December 31)	\$ 447	\$ 396
2022	601	540
2023	607	556
2024	613	573
2025	619	590
2026	207	199
Thereafter	—	—
Total future minimum lease payments	3,094	\$ 2,854
Less imputed interest	(792)	
Total operating lease liabilities	<u>\$ 2,302</u>	

The Company and the companies in which it holds ownership interests are involved in various claims and legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. In the current opinion of the Company, it is not reasonably possible that the ultimate disposition of these matters will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations, however, no assurance can be given as to the outcome of these actions, and one or more adverse rulings could have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position and results of operations or that of its companies. The Company records costs associated with legal fees as such services are rendered.

The Company had outstanding guarantees of \$3.8 million at March 31, 2021 which related to one of the Company's private equity holdings.

In 2018, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Company adopted a long-term incentive plan, which was amended in February 2019 and June 2020, known as the Amended and Restated Safeguard Scientifics Transaction Bonus Plan, (the "LTIP"). The purpose of the LTIP is to promote the interests of the Company and its shareholders by providing an additional incentive to employees to maximize the value of the Company in connection with the execution of the business strategy that the Company adopted and announced in January 2018. The June 2020 amendment lowered the level of the first threshold and the resulting bonus pool percentage as an incentive to employees to accelerate actions consistent with the business strategy. Under the LTIP, participants, which include certain current and former employees, have received awards that may result in cash payments in connection with sales of the Company's ownership interests ("Sale Transaction(s)"). The LTIP provides for a bonus pool corresponding to: (i) specified vesting thresholds or (ii) specified events. In the first case, the bonus pool will range from an amount equal to 0.2% (previously 1.0%) of received proceeds at the first threshold to 1.3% at higher thresholds and no bonus pool will be created if the transaction consideration is less than certain minimum thresholds. In the second case, a minimum pool will be created and paid under specified circumstances. The bonus pool will be allocated and paid to participants in the LTIP based on the product of (i) the participant's applicable bonus pool percentage and (ii) the bonus pool calculated as of the vesting date, minus any previously paid portion of the bonus pool. Any portion of the bonus pool available as of the applicable vesting date that is reserved will be allocated in connection with each vesting date so that the entire bonus pool available as of such vesting date is allocated and payable to participants. Subject to the terms of the LTIP, payments under the LTIP will be paid in cash within 60 days of the applicable vesting date. All current officers and employees of the Company are eligible to participate in the LTIP. The Board, in its sole discretion, will determine the participants to whom awards are granted under the LTIP. The Company has accrued approximately \$2.0 million under the LTIP as of March 31, 2021, all of which is estimated as current accrued compensation.

The Company recorded severance expense for certain employees of \$0.8 million during the three months ended March 31, 2021 in accordance with existing employment arrangements. During the three months ended March 31, 2021, cash payments of \$0.4 million were made pursuant to obligations under these arrangements and prior actions. Remaining amounts to be paid pursuant to severance agreements aggregate to \$0.6 million. Accrued compensation of previously deferred amounts of \$0.4 million will be paid during the second quarter of 2021. Additional contingent amounts could be paid based on continued participation in prior awards granted pursuant to the LTIP. The Company has agreements with certain remaining employees that provide for severance payments to the employee in the event the employee is terminated without cause or an employee terminates his employment for "good reason." The maximum aggregate exposure under employment and severance agreements for remaining employees was approximately \$0.9 million at March 31, 2021.

In June 2011, the Company's former ownership interest, Advanced BioHealing, Inc. ("ABH") was acquired by Shire plc ("Shire"). Prior to the expiration of the escrow period in March 2012, Shire filed a claim against all amounts held in escrow related to the sale based principally upon a United States Department of Justice ("DOJ") false claims act investigation relating to ABH (the "Investigation"). In connection with the Investigation, in July 2015 the Company received a Civil Investigation Demand-Documentary Material ("CID") from the DOJ regarding ABH and Safeguard's relationship with ABH. Pursuant to the CID, the Company provided the requested materials and information. To the Company's knowledge, the CID was related to multiple qui tam ("whistleblower") actions, one of which was filed in 2014 by an ex-employee of ABH that named the Company and one of the Company's employees along with other entities and individuals as defendants. At this time, the DOJ has declined to pursue the qui tam action as it relates to the Company and such Company employee.





## 10. Equity

In July 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized the Company, from time to time and depending on market conditions, to repurchase up to \$25.0 million of the Company's outstanding common stock. The Company has not repurchased any shares under the existing authorization during 2020 or the three months ended March 31, 2021.

## 11. Subsequent Event

In April 2021, Velano Vascular was acquired by another entity. The Company received \$3.4 million in initial cash proceeds and may receive additional amounts over the next 12 months from the resolution of escrow contingencies.

In May 2021, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a new \$6 million share repurchase program using existing funds in accordance with the requirements Rule 10b5-1 and Rule 10b-18 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

## Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

### Cautionary Note Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about Safeguard Scientifics, Inc. ("Safeguard" or "we"), the industries in which we operate and other matters, as well as management's beliefs and assumptions and other statements regarding matters that are not historical facts. These statements include, in particular, statements about our plans, strategies and prospects. For example, when we use words such as "projects," "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates," "should," "would," "could," "will," "opportunity," "potential" or "may," variations of such words or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes, we are making forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Our forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, include, among others, our ability to make good decisions about the deployment of capital, the fact that our ownership interests may vary from period to period, our substantial capital requirements and absence of liquidity from our holdings, fluctuations in the market prices of our publicly traded holdings, competition, our inability to obtain maximum value for our ownership interests, or at all, and the return of value to our shareholders, our ability to attract and retain qualified employees, our ability to execute our strategy, market valuations in sectors in which our ownership interests operate, our inability to control our ownership interests, our need to manage our assets to avoid registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, and risks associated with our ownership interests and their performance, including the fact that most of our ownership interests have a limited history and a history of operating losses, face intense competition and may never be profitable, the effect of economic conditions in the business sectors in which Safeguard's ownership interests operate, including the impact of COVID-19, compliance with government regulation and legal liabilities, all of which are discussed in Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in Safeguard's Annual Report on Form 10-K and updated, as applicable, in "Factors that May Affect Future Results" and Item 1A. "Risk Factors" below. Many of these factors are beyond our ability to predict or control. In addition, as a result of these and other factors, our past financial performance should not be relied on as an indication of future performance. All forward-looking statements attributable to us, or to persons acting on our behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. In light of these risks and uncertainties, the forward-looking events and circumstances discussed in this report might not occur.

## Business Overview

Over the recent past, Safeguard has provided capital and relevant expertise to fuel the growth of technology-driven businesses. In many, but not all cases, we are actively involved, influencing development through board representation and management support, in addition to the influence we exert through our equity ownership. We also continue to hold relatively small equity interests in other enterprises where we do not exert significant influence and do not participate in management activities. In some cases, those ownership interests relate to residual interests from prior larger interests or from companies that acquired companies in which we had ownership interests.

In January 2018, Safeguard announced that we will not deploy any capital into new opportunities and will focus on supporting our existing companies and maximizing monetization opportunities to enable the return of value to shareholders. In that context, we have, are and will consider initiatives including, among others: the sale of our ownership interests, the sale of certain or all ownership interests in secondary market transactions, or a combination thereof, as well as other opportunities to maximize shareholder value. We initiated the return of value to shareholders in 2019 with a \$1.00 per share special dividend. We anticipate additional actions could occur in the future, once significant dispositions occur, in the form of stock repurchases and/or special dividends based on available cash resources, prevailing market conditions and other factors.

## Results of Operations

We operate as one operating segment based upon the similar nature of our technology-driven companies, the functional alignment of the organizational structure, and the reports that are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker for the purpose of assessing performance and allocating resources.

There is intense competition in the markets in which our companies operate. Additionally, the markets in which these companies operate are characterized by rapidly changing technology, evolving industry standards, frequent introduction of new products and services, shifting distribution channels, evolving government regulation, frequently changing intellectual property landscapes and changing customer demands. Their future success depends on each company's ability to execute its business plan and to adapt to its respective rapidly changing market.

The following is a listing of certain of our ownership interests as of March 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

Company Name	Safeguard Primary Ownership as of March 31,		Accounting Method
	2021	2020	
Aktana, Inc.	15.0%	17.5%	Equity
Bright Health Group	*	N/A	Other
Clutch Holdings, Inc.	42.3%	41.2%	Equity
Flashtalking	13.2%	13.4%	Other
InfoBionic, Inc.	25.2%	25.2%	Equity
Lumesis, Inc.	43.4%	43.5%	Equity
MediaMath, Inc.	13.3%	13.3%	Other
meQuilibrium	32.0%	32.7%	Equity
Moxe Health Corporation	27.6%	29.9%	Equity
Prognos Health Inc.	28.5%	28.7%	Equity
Syapse, Inc.	11.1%	20.0%	Equity
Trice Medical, Inc.	16.6%	16.6%	Equity

\*not disclosed

Three months ended March 31, 2021 versus the three months ended March 31, 2020

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Variance</b>
	<b>(In thousands)</b>		
General and administrative expense	\$ (2,463)	\$ (3,532)	\$ 1,069
Other income (loss), net	706	(3,567)	4,273
Interest income	53	105	(52)
Equity income (loss), net	19,329	(9,014)	28,343
	<u>\$ 17,625</u>	<u>\$ (16,008)</u>	<u>\$ 33,633</u>

*General and Administrative Expense.* Our general and administrative expenses consist primarily of employee compensation, stock based compensation, insurance, office costs, and professional services. General and administrative expense decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2021 as compared to the prior year quarter due to lower severance expenses of \$1.0 million, lower employee compensation of \$0.1 million, lower professional fees of \$0.1 million, and various other lower costs, which were partially offset by higher stock based compensation of \$0.2 million and higher insurance costs of \$0.1 million. General and administrative expense includes stock based compensation of \$0.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021 as compared to \$0.1 million in the comparable prior year quarter. The increase in stock based compensation is the result of a larger proportion of management's compensation being settled in vested stock. General and administrative expenses include amounts estimated for the Transaction Bonus Plan (the "LTIP"), which is a component of employee compensation. As described in Note 9, the LTIP provides a cash bonus pool to employees based upon meeting certain thresholds of sales of the Company's ownership interests. Expense recognized pursuant to the LTIP was \$0.2 million for each of the three month periods ended March 31, 2021 and 2020. No amounts were paid according to the terms of the LTIP, however \$2.0 million is presented as a current liability at March 31, 2021.

*Other Income (loss), net.* Other income (loss), net increased \$4.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021 compared to the prior year quarter. During the three months ended March 31, 2021, the Company recorded a \$0.7 million gain on the sale of T-REX Group, Inc. to a secondary investor for \$3 million in cash proceeds. During the three months ended March 31, 2020, the Company recorded impairments of \$5.1 million related to the ownership interests of T-REX, b8ta and others accounted for under the Other method. The impairments were determined based on declines in the fair value of our ownership interests resulting from reduced valuation expectations and extended exit timelines resulting from the more challenging mergers and acquisitions environment related to COVID-19 and the related uncertain economic impact. Partially offsetting these impairments, the quarter also included a \$1.5 million non-cash gain for the increase in the fair value our ownership interest in Flashtalking based upon an observable price change.

*Interest Income.* Interest income decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2021 as compared to the prior year period primarily attributable to lower average notes receivable.

*Equity Income (loss), net.* Equity income (loss), net increased \$28.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021 compared to the prior year period. The components of equity income (loss), net for the three months ended March 31, 2021 and 2020 were as follows:

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Variance</b>
	<b>(In thousands)</b>		
Gains on sales of ownership interests, net	\$ 16,508	\$ 25	\$ 16,483
Unrealized dilution gains	7,302	—	7,302
Loss on impairments	—	(6,200)	6,200
Share of loss of our equity method companies, net	(4,481)	(2,839)	(1,642)
	<u>\$ 19,329</u>	<u>\$ (9,014)</u>	<u>\$ 28,343</u>

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, Zipnosis, Inc. was acquired by another entity. The Company received \$3.3 million in initial cash proceeds and \$15.3 million in preferred equity in the acquiror in connection with this transaction. This ownership interest represents a security that does not have a readily determinable fair value. Due to the inherent uncertainty of determining the fair value of ownership interests that do not have a readily determinable fair value, this estimated value may differ significantly from the value that would have been reported had a ready market for the security existed, and it is reasonably possible that the difference could be material. The Company recognized a \$17.0 million gain on the sale, which is included in Equity income (loss), net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. The fair value of the ownership interests received as a result of the acquisition was estimated based on evaluating several valuation methods available, including the value at which independent third parties have recently invested, the valuation of comparable public companies, and the present value of our expected outcomes. Assumptions considered within these methods include determining which public companies are comparable, projecting forward revenues, selecting an appropriate valuation multiple, discounts to apply for the lack of marketability or lack of comparability, other factors and the relative weight to apply to each valuation method available. Due to the unobservable nature of some of these inputs, we have determined this estimate to be Level 3 fair value measurements. Our ownership interest in the acquiror will be accounted for under the Other method, as such in subsequent periods it could be subject to observable price changes or impairment if our estimated fair value declines.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, WebLinc, Inc. was acquired by another entity. The Company received \$3.2 million in initial cash proceeds and may receive additional amounts over the next 24 months based on certain transactional performance activities, which could be partially offset by indemnifiable claims. The Company recognized a \$0.5 million initial loss on the sale, which is included in Equity income (loss). To the extent additional amounts are collected as contingencies are resolved, those amounts will be recorded as gain on the sale and included within Equity income (loss). QuanticMind was acquired during the first quarter by another entity, however there were no resultant proceeds to the Company. There was no resulting gain or loss due to this equity method ownership interest being impaired during the prior year.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, the Company's ownership interest in T-REX Group, Inc. was acquired for \$3.0 million in cash, which was accounted for under the Other method. The Company recognized a \$0.7 million gain, which is included in Other income (loss), net. Hoopla was also acquired during the first quarter by another entity, however there were no resultant proceeds to the Company. There was no resulting gain or loss due to this Other method ownership interest being impaired during the prior year.

The change in our share of loss of our equity method companies for the three months ended March 31, 2021 compared to the prior year period of \$1.6 million was due to an increase in losses associated with our ownership interests.

### ***Income Tax Benefit (Expense)***

Income tax benefit (expense) was \$0.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021 and 2020. We have recorded a valuation allowance to reduce our net deferred tax asset to an amount that is more likely than not to be realized in future years. Accordingly, the income tax provision that would have been recognized in the three months ended March 31, 2021 and 2020 was offset by changes in the valuation allowance.

### ***Liquidity and Capital Resources***

As of March 31, 2021, we had \$21.8 million of cash and cash equivalents.

In January 2018, Safeguard announced that, from that date forward, we will not deploy any capital into new opportunities and will focus on supporting our existing ownership interests and maximizing monetization opportunities to return value to shareholders. In that context, we have, are and will consider initiatives including, among others: the sale of individual ownership interests, the sale of certain ownership interests in secondary market transactions, or a combination thereof, as well as other opportunities to maximize shareholder value.

In 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized us, from time to time and depending on market conditions, to repurchase up to \$25.0 million of the Company's outstanding common stock. During the year ended December 31, 2020 and the three months ended March 31, 2021, we did not repurchase any shares under this authorization. In May 2021, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a new \$6 million share repurchase program using existing funds in accordance with the requirements Rule 10b5-1 and Rule 10b-18 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Our ability to generate liquidity from transactions involving our ownership interests has been adversely affected from time to time by adverse circumstances in the U.S. capital markets and other factors, including the impact of COVID-19. We may be requested to provide additional capital to our companies, which may cause us to face liquidity issues that will constrain our ability to execute our business strategy and limit our ability to provide financial support to all of our existing companies in the amounts that we desire. The transactions we enter into in pursuit of our strategy could increase or decrease our liquidity at any point in time. As we seek to provide additional funding to existing companies where we have an ownership interest or commit capital to other initiatives, we may be required to expend our cash or incur debt, which will decrease our liquidity. Conversely, as we dispose of our interests in our ownership interests, we may receive proceeds from such sales, which could increase our liquidity. From time to time, we are engaged in discussions concerning acquisitions and dispositions which, if consummated, could impact our liquidity, perhaps significantly. Accordingly, the Company could also pursue other sources of capital in order to maintain its liquidity. The Company believes that its cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2021 will be sufficient to fund operations past one year from the issuance of these financial statements.

## Analysis of Consolidated Cash Flows

Cash flow activity was as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2021	2020	Variance
	(In thousands)		
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (2,157)	\$ (2,551)	\$ 394
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	8,419	(1,533)	9,952
Net cash used in financing activities	(88)	(11)	(77)
	<u>\$ 6,174</u>	<u>\$ (4,095)</u>	<u>\$ 10,269</u>

### Net Cash Used In Operating Activities

Net cash used in operating activities decreased by \$0.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021 compared to the prior year period. The activity during the three months ended March 31, 2021 was primarily the result of net income for the period, which was offset by various non-cash adjustments such as \$19.3 million of equity income. The activity during the three months ended March 31, 2020 was primarily the result of various non-cash adjustments to net loss, including \$9.0 million of equity loss and \$5.1 million of impairments to Other method ownership interests, which were partially offset by non-cash gains of \$1.5 million for an observable price change.

### Net Cash (Used in) Provided by Investing Activities

Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities increased by \$10.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021 compared to the prior year period. The increase primarily related to proceeds received from the WebLinc, Zipnosis and T-REX transactions that aggregated to \$9.4 million as well as lower advances and acquisitions of ownership interests in 2021 as compared to 2020.

### Net Cash Used In Financing Activities

There were no significant financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2021 and 2020.

## Contractual Cash Obligations and Other Commercial Commitments

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations and other commercial commitments as of March 31, 2021, by period due or expiration of the commitment.

	Payments Due by Period				
	Total	2021 (remainder)	2022 and 2023	2024 and 2025	After 2025
	(In millions)				
Contractual Cash Obligations:					
Operating leases (a)	\$ 3.0	0.4	1.2	1.2	0.2
Total Contractual Cash Obligations (b)	<u>\$ 3.0</u>	<u>\$ 0.4</u>	<u>\$ 1.2</u>	<u>\$ 1.2</u>	<u>\$ 0.2</u>

- (a) In 2015, we entered into an agreement for the lease of our former principal executive offices which expires in April 2026. In March 2019, we entered into a sublease for these offices which is expected to result in future aggregate sublease receipts of \$2.9 million through April 2026.
- (b) The maximum aggregate exposure under employment and severance agreements for remaining employees was approximately \$0.9 million at March 31, 2021 (not reflected in the table above).

## Factors That May Affect Future Results

You should carefully consider the information set forth below. The following risk factors describe situations in which our business, financial condition and/or results of operations could be materially harmed, and the value of our securities may be adversely affected. You should also refer to other information included or incorporated by reference in this report.

***The COVID-19 pandemic is adversely affecting the businesses, financial conditions and operating results of the companies in which we have an ownership interest, as well as our ability to monetize such interests, and it may also cause us to increase the amount of additional capital we will need to provide to such companies.***

The current economic and market conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are negatively impacting the companies in which we have ownership interests, including, without limitation, their operations, supply chains, sales infrastructures and the demand for their products and services. This is negatively affecting their businesses, financial conditions and operating results. As a result, we may be required to provide additional capital to such companies, which may cause us to face liquidity issues that will constrain our ability to execute our business strategy and limit our ability to provide financial support to all of our existing companies in the amounts that we desire. We are also experiencing a more challenging mergers and acquisitions market in general for such companies, which has resulted in lower valuation expectations and extended exit timelines for such companies, which, in turn, could negatively affect the amount and timing of the monetization opportunities for such companies and our ability to return value to shareholders.

***The intended monetization of our company interests and the return of value to shareholders are subject to factors beyond our control.***

In January 2018, we announced that we will not deploy any capital into new companies. We will instead focus on supporting, and maximizing monetization opportunities for, our existing company interests to return value to shareholders. However, this strategic plan may require providing additional capital and operational support to such existing companies and we may not be able to sell our company interests during any specific time frame or otherwise on desirable terms, if at all, and there can be no assurance as to how long this process will take or the results that this process will yield. There can be no assurance as to whether we will realize the value of escrowed proceeds, holdbacks or other contingent consideration, if any, associated with the sale of our company interests. Additionally, there can be no assurance that we will be able to satisfy our liabilities during this process. Further, the method, timing and amount of any return of value resulting from the monetization of existing company interests will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend on market and business conditions and our overall liabilities, capital structure and liquidity position.

***A disposition of one or more of our company interests may occur at a time that will yield less value than if we held such interests for a longer period of time.***

Our companies are at various stages in their lifecycles. The value of our interests in our companies at any point in time is highly dependent on the progress and success such companies have made at such time with respect to the development and marketing of their products and services and that value may fluctuate significantly. In order to effect our strategy of monetizing our interests in our companies, we may dispose of such interests at a time prior to the applicable company reaching its maximum value. Doing so will result in a return of value to shareholders that is less than that which may have been returned if we retained our interests in such company for a longer period of time

***Our principal business strategy depends upon our ability to make good decisions regarding the deployment of capital into, and subsequent disposition of, our existing company interests and, ultimately, the performance of such companies, which is uncertain.***

If we make poor decisions regarding the deployment of capital into, and subsequent disposition of, our existing companies, our business strategy will not succeed. If such companies do not succeed, the value of our assets could be significantly reduced and require substantial impairments or write-offs and our results of operations and the price of our common stock would be adversely affected. The risks relating to our companies include:

- most of our companies have a history of operating losses and/or limited operating history;
- the intense competition affecting the products and services our companies offer could adversely affect their businesses, financial condition, results of operations and prospects for growth;
- the inability to adapt to changing marketplaces;
- the inability to manage growth;
- the need for additional capital to fund their operations, which we may not be able to fund or which may not be available from third parties on acceptable terms, if at all;
- the inability to protect their proprietary rights and/or infringing on the proprietary rights of others;
- that our companies could face legal liabilities from claims made against them based upon their operations, products or work;
- the impact of economic downturns on their operations, results and growth prospects;
- the inability to attract and retain qualified personnel;
- the existence of government regulations and legal uncertainties may place financial burdens on the businesses of our companies; and
- the inability to plan for and manage catastrophic events.

These and other risks are discussed in detail under the caption “Risks Related to Our Companies” below.

***As we execute against our strategy, a significant amount of our deployed capital may be concentrated in companies operating in the same or similar industries, limiting our diversification.***

Our capital deployments could be concentrated in several companies that operate in the same or similar industries. This may cause us to be more susceptible to any single economic, regulatory or other occurrence affecting those particular industries than we would otherwise be if our companies operated in more diversified industries.

***Our business model does not rely upon, or plan for, the receipt of operating cash flows from our companies. Our companies do not provide us with cash flow from their operations. We rely on cash on hand, liquidity events and our ability to generate cash from capital raising activities to finance our operations.***

We need capital to fund the capital needs of our existing companies. We also need cash to finance our corporate overhead and meet our existing funding commitments. As a result, we have substantial cash requirements. Our companies do not provide us with cash flow from their operations. To the extent our companies generate any cash from operations, they generally retain the funds to develop their own businesses. As a result, we must rely on cash on hand, company liquidity events and new capital raising activities to meet our cash needs. If we are unable to find ways of monetizing our holdings of company interests or raising additional capital on attractive terms, we may face liquidity issues that will require us to constrain our ability to execute our business strategy and limit our ability to provide financial support to our existing companies.



***We may be unable to obtain maximum value for our holdings or to sell our holdings on a timely basis.***

We hold significant positions in our companies. If we were to divest all or part of our holdings in a company, we may have to sell our interests at a relative discount to intrinsic value. For companies with publicly traded stock, we may be unable to sell our holdings at then-quoted market prices. The trading volume and public float in the common stock of a publicly traded company in which we have an interest may be small relative to our holdings. As a result, any significant open-market divestiture by us of our holdings in such a company, if possible at all, would likely have a material adverse effect on the market price of its common stock and on our proceeds from such a divestiture. Additionally, we may not be able to take our companies public as a means of monetizing our position or creating shareholder value. Registration and other requirements under applicable securities laws and contractual restrictions also may adversely affect our ability to dispose of our company holdings on a timely basis.

***Our success is dependent on our senior management.***

Our success is dependent on our senior management team's ability to execute our strategy. In connection with our new strategy announced in 2018, we made a series of management changes intended to streamline our organizational structure and reduce our operating costs and since then we have made, and may make, further management changes from time to time. A loss of one or more of the remaining members of our senior management team without adequate replacement could have a material adverse effect on us.

***Our business strategy may not be successful if valuations in the market sectors in which our companies participate decline.***

Our strategy involves creating value for our shareholders by helping our companies build value and, if appropriate, accessing the public and private capital markets. Therefore, our success is dependent on the value of our companies as determined by the public and private capital markets. Many factors, including reduced market interest, may cause the market value of our companies to decline. If valuations in the market sectors in which our companies participate decline, their access to the public and private capital markets on terms acceptable to them may be limited.

***Our companies could make business decisions that are not in our best interests or with which we do not agree, which could impair the value of our holdings.***

Although we currently own a significant, influential interest in some of our companies, we do not maintain a controlling interest in any of our companies. Acquisitions of interests in companies in which we share or have no control, and the dilution of our interests in or a further reduction of our control of companies, will involve additional risks that could cause the performance of our interests and our operating results to suffer, including:

- the management teams or other equity or debt holders of our companies having economic or business interests or objectives that are different from ours; and
- the companies not taking our advice with respect to the financial or operating issues they may encounter.

Our inability to control our companies also could prevent us from assisting them, financially or otherwise, or could prevent us from liquidating our interests in them at a time or at a price that is favorable to us. Additionally, our companies may not act in ways that are consistent with our business strategy. These factors could hamper our ability to maximize returns on our interests and cause us to incur losses on our interests in these companies.

***We may have to buy, sell or retain assets when we would otherwise not wish to do so in order to avoid registration under the Investment Company Act.***

The Investment Company Act of 1940 regulates companies which are engaged primarily in the business of investing, reinvesting, owning, holding or trading in securities. Under the Investment Company Act, a company may be deemed to be an investment company if it owns investment securities with a value exceeding 40% of the value of its total assets (excluding government securities and cash items) on an unconsolidated basis, unless an exemption or safe harbor applies. We refer to this test as the "40% Test." Securities issued by companies other than consolidated companies are generally considered "investment securities" for purposes of the Investment Company Act, unless other circumstances exist which actively involve the company holding such interests in the management of the underlying company. We are a company that partners with growth-stage companies to build value; we are not engaged primarily in the business of investing, reinvesting or trading in securities. We are in compliance with the 40% Test. Consequently, we do not believe that we are an investment company under the Investment Company Act.

We monitor our compliance with the 40% Test and seek to conduct our business activities to comply with this test. It is not feasible for us to be regulated as an investment company because the Investment Company Act rules are inconsistent with our strategy of actively helping our companies in their efforts to build value. In order to continue to comply with the 40% Test, we may need to take various actions which we would otherwise not pursue. For example, we may be limited in the manner or timing in which we sell our interests in a company. Our ownership levels also may be affected if our companies are acquired by third parties or if our companies issue stock which dilutes our ownership interest. The actions we may need to take to address these issues while maintaining compliance with the 40% Test could adversely affect our ability to create and realize value at our companies.

***The COVID-19 pandemic may adversely affect parties with obligations to us, including the subtenant of our previous office space.***

In March 2019, we entered into a sublease of our prior corporate headquarters office space beginning in June 2019. The term of the sublease is through April 2026, the same as our underlying lease. Fixed sublease payments to us are escalating over the term of the sublease. We remain obligated under the original lease for such office space and, in the event the subtenant of such office space fails to satisfy its obligations under the sublease, we would be required to satisfy our obligations directly to the landlord under such original lease.

## Risks Related to Our Companies

*Most of our companies have a history of operating losses and/or limited operating history and may never be profitable.*

Most of our companies have a history of operating losses and/or limited operating history, have significant historical losses and may never be profitable. Many have incurred substantial costs to develop and market their products, have incurred net losses and cannot fund their cash needs from operations. We expect that the operating expenses of certain of our companies will increase substantially in the foreseeable future as they continue to develop products and services, increase sales and marketing efforts, and expand operations.

*Our companies face intense competition, which could adversely affect their business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects for growth.*

There is intense competition in the technology marketplaces, and we expect competition to intensify in the future. Our business, financial condition, and results of operations will be materially adversely affected if our companies are not able to compete successfully. Many of the present and potential competitors may have greater financial, technical, marketing and other resources than those of our companies. This may place our companies at a disadvantage in responding to the offerings of their competitors, technological changes or changes in client requirements. Also, our companies may be at a competitive disadvantage because many of their competitors have greater name recognition, more extensive client bases and a broader range of product offerings. In addition, our companies may compete against one another.

*The success or failure of many of our companies is dependent upon the ultimate effectiveness of newly-created technologies, medical devices, financial services, healthcare diagnostics, etc.*

Our companies' business strategies are often highly dependent upon the successful launch and commercialization of an innovative technology or device, including, without limitation, technologies or devices used in healthcare, financial services or digital media. Despite all of our efforts to understand the research and development underlying the innovation or creation of such technologies and devices before we deploy capital into a company, sometimes the performance of the technology or device does not match our expectations or those of such company. In those situations, it is likely that we will incur a partial or total loss of the capital which we deployed in such company.

*Our companies may fail if they do not adapt to changing marketplaces.*

If our companies fail to adapt to changes in technology and customer and supplier demands, they may not become or remain profitable. There is no assurance that the products and services of our companies will achieve or maintain market penetration or commercial success, or that the businesses of our companies will be successful.

The technology marketplaces are characterized by:

- rapidly changing technology;
- evolving industry standards;
- frequent introduction of new products and services;
- shifting distribution channels;
- evolving government regulation;
- frequently changing intellectual property landscapes; and
- changing customer demands.

Our future success will depend on our companies' ability to adapt to these evolving marketplaces. They may not be able to adequately or economically adapt their products and services, develop new products and services or establish and maintain effective distribution channels for their products and services. If our companies are unable to offer competitive products and services or maintain effective distribution channels, they will sell fewer products and services and forego potential revenue, possibly causing them to lose money. In addition, we and our companies may not be able to respond to the marketplace changes in an economically efficient manner, and our companies may become or remain unprofitable.

***Our companies may grow rapidly, including through acquisitions of other businesses, and may be unable to manage their growth.***

We expect some of our companies to grow rapidly, including through acquisitions of other businesses. Such growth often places considerable operational, managerial, integration and financial strain on a business. To successfully manage such growth, our companies must, among other things:

- improve, upgrade and expand their business infrastructures;
- successfully integrate and operate any newly acquired businesses;
- scale up production operations;
- develop appropriate financial reporting controls;
- attract and retain qualified personnel; and
- maintain appropriate levels of liquidity.

If our companies are unable to manage their growth successfully, their ability to respond effectively to competition and to achieve or maintain profitability will be adversely affected.

***Based on our business model, some or all of our companies will need to raise additional capital to fund their operations at any given time. We may not be able to, or decline to, fund some or all of such amounts and such amounts may not be available from third parties on acceptable terms, if at all. Further, if our companies do raise additional capital from third parties, either debt or equity, such capital may rank senior to, or dilute, our interests in such companies.***

We cannot be certain that our companies will be able to obtain additional financing on favorable terms when needed, if at all. We may not be able to, or decline to, provide our companies with sufficient capital resources to enable them to reach a cash-flow positive position or a sale of the company. General economic disruptions and downturns may also negatively affect the ability of some of our companies to fund their operations from other stockholders and capital sources. We also may fail to accurately project the capital needs of companies. If our companies need capital, but are not able to raise capital from us or other outside sources, they may need to cease or scale back operations. In such event, our interest in any such company will become less valuable. If our companies raise additional capital from third parties, either debt or equity, such capital may be dilutive, making our interests less valuable or if such capital ranks senior to the capital we have deployed, such capital may entitle its holders to receive returns of capital before we are entitled to receive any return of our deployed capital. Also, in the event of any insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of one or more our companies, holders of such company's instruments that rank senior to our deployed capital will typically be entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any return of our deployed capital. After returning such senior capital, such company may not have any remaining assets to use for returning capital to us, causing us to lose some or all of our deployed capital in such company.

***Economic disruptions and downturns may negatively affect our companies' plans and their results of operations.***

Many of our companies are largely dependent upon outside sources of capital to fund their operations. Disruptions in the availability of capital from such sources will negatively affect the ability of such companies to pursue their business models and will force such companies to revise their growth and development plans accordingly. Any such changes will, in turn, negatively affect our ability to realize the value of our capital deployments in such companies.

In addition, downturns in the economy as well as possible governmental responses to such downturns and/or to specific situations in the economy could affect the business prospects of certain of our companies, including, but not limited to, in the following ways: weaknesses in the financial services industries; reduced business and/or consumer spending; and/or systemic changes in the ways the healthcare system operates in the United States.

***Some of our companies may be unable to protect their proprietary rights and may infringe on the proprietary rights of others.***

Our companies assert various forms of intellectual property protection. Intellectual property may constitute an important part of our companies' assets and competitive strengths. Federal law, most typically copyright, patent, trademark and trade secret laws, generally protects intellectual property rights. Although we expect that our companies will take reasonable efforts to protect the rights to their intellectual property, third parties may develop similar intellectual property independently. Moreover, the complexity of international trade secret, copyright, trademark and patent law, coupled with the limited resources of our companies and the demands of quick delivery of products and services to market, create a risk that our companies' efforts to prevent misappropriation of their technology will prove inadequate.

Some of our companies also license intellectual property from third parties and it is possible that they could become subject to infringement actions based upon their use of the intellectual property licensed from those third parties. Our companies generally obtain representations as to the origin and ownership of such licensed intellectual property. However, this may not adequately protect them. Any claims against our companies' proprietary rights, with or without merit, could subject the companies to costly litigation and divert their technical and management personnel from other business concerns. If our companies incur costly litigation and their personnel are not effectively deployed, the expenses and losses incurred by our companies will increase and their profits, if any, will decrease.

Third parties have and may assert infringement or other intellectual property claims against our companies based on their patents or other intellectual property claims. Even though we believe our companies' products do not infringe any third party's patents, they may have to pay substantial damages, possibly including treble damages, if it is ultimately determined that they do. They may have to obtain a license to sell their products if it is determined that their products infringe on another person's intellectual property. Our companies might be prohibited from selling their products before they obtain a license, which, if available at all, may require them to pay substantial royalties. Even if infringement claims against our companies are without merit, defending these types of lawsuits takes significant time, is expensive and may divert management attention from other business concerns.

***Certain of our companies could face legal liabilities from claims made against their operations, products or work.***

Because the manufacture and sale of certain company products entail an inherent risk of product liability, certain of our companies maintain product liability insurance. Although none of our current companies have experienced any material losses in this regard, there can be no assurance that they will be able to maintain or acquire adequate product liability insurance in the future and any product liability claim could have a material adverse effect on a company's financial stability, revenues and results of operations. In addition, many of the engagements of our companies involve projects that are critical to the operation of their clients' businesses. If our companies fail to meet their contractual obligations, they could be subject to legal liability, which could adversely affect their business, operating results and financial condition. Our companies' contracts typically include provisions designed to limit their exposure to legal claims relating to their services and products. However, these provisions may not protect our companies or may not be enforceable. Also, some of our companies depend on their relationships with their clients and their reputation for high-quality services and integrity to retain and attract clients. As a result, claims made against our companies' work may damage their reputation, which in turn could impact their ability to compete for new work and negatively impact their revenue and profitability.

***Our companies' success depends on their ability to attract and retain qualified personnel.***

Our companies depend upon their ability to attract and retain senior management and key personnel, including trained technical and marketing personnel. Our companies also will need to continue to hire additional personnel as they expand. Although our current companies have not been the subject of a work stoppage, any future work stoppage could have a material adverse effect on their respective operations. A shortage in the availability of the requisite qualified personnel or work stoppage would limit the ability of our companies to grow, to increase sales of their existing products and services, and to launch new products and services.

***Government regulations and legal uncertainties may place financial burdens on the businesses of our companies.***

Manufacturers of medical diagnostic devices and operators of laboratory facilities are subject to strict federal and state regulation regarding validation and the quality of manufacturing and laboratory facilities. Failure to comply with these quality regulation systems requirements could result in civil or criminal penalties or enforcement proceedings, including the recall of a product or a "cease distribution" order. The enactment of any additional laws or regulations that affect healthcare insurance policy and reimbursement (including Medicare reimbursement) could negatively affect some of our companies. If Medicare or private payers change the rates at which our companies or their customers are reimbursed by insurance providers for their products, such changes could adversely impact our companies.

***Some of our companies may be subject to significant environmental, health, data security and safety regulation.***

Some of our companies may be subject to licensing and regulation under federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to the protection of the environment and human health and safety, including laws and regulations relating to the handling, transportation and disposal of medical specimens, infectious and hazardous waste and radioactive materials, as well as to the safety and health of manufacturing and laboratory employees. In addition, some of our companies are subject to federal, state and local financial securities and data security regulations, including, without limitation, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as amended, the California Consumer Privacy Act and the European General Data Protection Regulation, which impose varying degrees of additional obligations, costs and risks upon such companies, including the imposition of significant penalties in the event of any non-compliance. Further, the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration has established extensive requirements relating to workplace safety. Compliance with such regulations could increase operating costs at certain of our companies, and the failure to comply could negatively affect the operations and results of some of our companies.

***Catastrophic events may disrupt our companies' businesses.***

Some of our companies are highly automated businesses and rely on their network infrastructure, various software applications and many internal technology systems and data networks for their customer support, development, sales and marketing and accounting and finance functions. Further, some of our companies provide services to their customers from data center facilities in multiple locations. Some of these data centers are operated by third parties, and the companies have limited control over those facilities. A disruption or failure of these systems or data centers in the event of a natural disaster, telecommunications failure, power outage, cyber-attack, war, terrorist attack or other catastrophic event could cause system interruptions, reputational harm, delays in product development, breaches of data security and loss of critical data. Such an event could also prevent the companies from fulfilling customer orders or maintaining certain service level requirements, particularly in respect of their SaaS offerings. While certain of our companies have developed certain disaster recovery plans and maintain backup systems to reduce the potentially adverse effect of such events, a catastrophic event that resulted in the destruction or disruption of any of their data centers or their critical business or information technology systems could severely affect their ability to conduct normal business operations and, as a result, their

business, operating results and financial condition could be adversely affected.

We cannot provide assurance that our companies' disaster recovery plans will address all of the issues they may encounter in the event of a disaster or other unanticipated issue, and their business interruption insurance may not adequately compensate them for losses that may occur from any of the foregoing. In the event that a natural disaster, terrorist attack or other catastrophic event were to destroy any part of their facilities or interrupt their operations for any extended period of time, or if harsh weather or health conditions prevent them from delivering products in a timely manner, their business, financial condition and operating results could be adversely affected.

## **Risks Related to an Investment in our Securities**

### ***Fluctuations in the price of the common stock of our publicly traded holdings may affect the price of our common stock.***

From time to time, we may hold equity interests in companies that are publicly traded. Fluctuations in the market prices of the common stock of publicly traded holdings may affect the price of our common stock. Historically, the market prices of our publicly traded holdings have been highly volatile and subject to fluctuations unrelated or disproportionate to operating performance.

### ***The continuing costs and burdens associated with being a public company will constitute a much larger percentage of our expenses and we may in the future delist our common stock with the New York Stock Exchange and seek to deregister our common stock with the SEC.***

We will remain a public company and will continue to be subject to the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange and SEC rules and regulations, including the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The costs and burdens of being a public company will be a significant and continually increasing portion of our expenses if we are able to monetize our company interests. As part of such monetization efforts, we will likely in the future, once the majority of our company interests have been monetized, delist our common stock from the New York Stock Exchange and seek to deregister our common stock with the SEC. However, there can be no assurance as to the timing of such transactions, or whether such transactions will be completed at all, and we will continue to face the costs and burdens of being a public company until such time as our common stock is delisted with the New York Stock Exchange and deregistered with the SEC.

### ***Economic disruptions and downturns may have negative repercussions for us.***

Events in the United States and international capital markets, debt markets and economies may negatively impact our stock price and our ability to pursue certain tactical and strategic initiatives, such as accessing additional public or private equity or debt financing for us or for our companies and selling our interests in companies on terms acceptable to us and in time frames consistent with our expectations.

### ***We cannot provide assurance that material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting will not be identified in the future.***

We cannot assure you that material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting will not be identified in the future. Any failure to maintain or implement required new or improved controls, or any difficulties we encounter in their implementation, could result in a material weakness, or could result in material misstatements in our Consolidated Financial Statements. These misstatements could result in a restatement of our Consolidated Financial Statements, cause us to fail to meet our reporting obligations and/or cause investors to lose confidence in our reported financial information, leading to a decline in our stock price.

## **Item 3.**

### ***Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk***

There have been no material changes to the information we previously disclosed under Item 7A of Part II of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on March 5, 2021.

## **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

### **(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures as of March 31, 2021 are functioning effectively to provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed by us in reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is (i) recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms and (ii) accumulated and communicated to our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding disclosure. A controls system cannot provide absolute assurance that the objectives of the controls system are met, and no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within a company have been detected.

### **(b) Change in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

No change in our internal control over financial reporting occurred during our most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II

### OTHER INFORMATION

#### Item 1. *Legal Proceedings*

None.

#### Item 1A. *Risk Factors*

Except as included under the heading "Factors That May Affect Future Results" above, there have been no material changes in our risk factors from the information set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020.

#### Item 2. *Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds*

The following table provides information about purchases of equity securities by the Company and affiliated purchasers of the Company, during the quarter ended March 31, 2021, which equity securities are registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"):

<b>Period</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased (a)</b>	<b>Average Price Paid Per Share</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plan (b)</b>	<b>Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plan (b)</b>
January 1, 2021 - January 31, 2021	12,791	\$ 6.57	—	\$ 14,636,135
February 1, 2021 - February 28, 2021	—	\$ —	—	\$ 14,636,135
March 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021	528	\$ 7.86	—	\$ 14,636,135
Total	13,319	\$ 6.63	—	

- (a) During the first quarter of 2021, the Company repurchased an aggregate of 13 thousand shares of its common stock initially issued as restricted stock awards to employees and subsequently withheld from employees to satisfy the statutory withholding tax liability upon the vesting of such restricted stock awards.
- (b) In July 2015, our Board of Directors authorized the Company to repurchase shares of its outstanding common stock with an aggregate value of up to \$25.0 million. These repurchases may be made in open market or privately negotiated transactions, including under plans complying with Rule 10b5-1 of the Exchange Act, based on market conditions, stock price, and other factors. The share repurchase program does not obligate the Company to acquire any specific number of shares.

#### Item 3. *Defaults Upon Senior Securities*

None.

#### Item 4. *Mine Safety Disclosures*

Not applicable.

#### Item 5. *Other Information*

None.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

(a) Exhibits.

The following is a list of exhibits required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K to be filed as part of this Report. For exhibits that previously have been filed, the Registrant incorporates those exhibits herein by reference. Documents which are incorporated by reference to filings by parties other than the Registrant are identified in a footnote to this table.

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
31.1 †	<a href="#">Certification of Eric C. Salzman pursuant to Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.</a>
31.2 †	<a href="#">Certification of Mark A. Herndon pursuant to Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.</a>
32.1 ‡	<a href="#">Certification of Eric C. Salzman pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.</a>
32.2 ‡	<a href="#">Certification of Mark A. Herndon pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.</a>
101	Inline The following materials from Safeguard Scientifics, Inc. Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2021, formatted in iXBRL (Inline eXtensible Business Reporting Language); (i) Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited); (ii) Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited); (iii) Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) (unaudited); (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited); (v) Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity (unaudited); and (vi) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited).
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101).
†	Filed herewith
‡	Furnished herewith
*	This exhibit relates to management contracts or compensatory plans, contracts or arrangement in which directors and/or executive officers of the Registrant may participate. Certain portions of this exhibit have been omitted pursuant to Item 601(b)(10) of Regulation S-K.



**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date: May 7, 2021

SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.

/s/ Eric C. Salzman

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Eric C. Salzman

*Chief Executive Officer*

Date: May 7, 2021

/s/ Mark A. Herndon

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Mark A. Herndon

*Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer*

## CERTIFICATION

I, Eric C. Salzman, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Safeguard Scientifics, 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.

SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.

Date: May 7, 2021

/s/ Eric C. Salzman

Eric C. Salzman

Chief Executive Officer

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## CERTIFICATION

I, Mark A. Herndon, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Safeguard Scientifics, 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.

SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.

Date: May 7, 2021

/s/ Mark A. Herndon

Mark A. Herndon

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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**Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906  
of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Safeguard Scientifics, Inc. ("Safeguard") on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2021 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Eric C. Salzman, Chief Executive Officer of Safeguard, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, (15 U.S.C. 78m(a)); and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Safeguard.

SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.

Date: May 7, 2021

/s/ Eric C. Salzman

Eric C. Salzman

Chief Executive Officer

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**Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906  
of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Safeguard Scientifics, Inc. (“Safeguard”) on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2021 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), I, Mark A. Herndon, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Safeguard, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, (15 U.S.C. 78m(a)); and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Safeguard.

SAFEGUARD SCIENTIFICS, INC.

Date: May 7, 2021

/s/ Mark A. Herndon

Mark A. Herndon

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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