

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
Form N-Q  
May 17, 2012

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

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT  
INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-21905  
-----

First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund  
-----

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
-----

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

W. Scott Jardine, Esq.  
First Trust Portfolios L.P.  
120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
-----

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (630) 765-8000  
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Date of fiscal year end: December 31  
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Date of reporting period: March 31, 2012  
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Form N-Q is to be used by management investment companies, other than small business investment companies registered on Form N-5 (ss.ss. 239.24 and 274.5 of this chapter), to file reports with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the close of the first and third fiscal quarters, pursuant to rule 30b1-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30b1-5). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-Q in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-Q, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-Q unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. ss. 3507.

ITEM 1. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS. The Schedule(s) of Investments is attached herewith.

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a)  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

| SHARES                | DESCRIPTION                                      |    |
|-----------------------|--|----|
| COMMON STOCKS - 46.5% |  |    |
| BRAZIL - 8.5%         |  |    |
| 100,924               | Banco Bradesco S.A., ADR .....                   | \$ |
| 28,000                | Lojas Renner S.A. ....                           |    |
| 33,000                | Multiplan Empreendimentos Imobiliarios S.A. .... |    |
| 66,000                | Petroleo Brasileiro S.A., ADR .....              |    |
| 66,500                | Souza Cruz S.A. ....                             |    |
| 84,000                | Ultrapar Participacoes S.A. ....                 |    |
| 92,100                | Vale S.A., Preference Shares, ADR .....          |    |
| CHILE - 0.9%          |  |    |
| 12,600                | Banco Santander Chile S.A., ADR .....            |    |
| CHINA - 3.3%          |  |    |
| 216,500               | China Mobile Ltd. ....                           |    |
| 1,070,000             | PetroChina Co., Ltd., Class H .....              |    |
| HONG KONG - 3.2%      |  |    |
| 229,600               | AIA Group Ltd. ....                              |    |
| 202,000               | Hang Lung Group Ltd. ....                        |    |
| 640,000               | Swire Pacific Ltd., B Shares .....               |    |
| 89,600                | Swire Properties Ltd. ....                       |    |
| HUNGARY - 0.8%        |  |    |
| 5,500                 | Richter Gedeon Nyrt .....                        |    |
| INDIA - 4.4%          |  |    |
| 32,000                | Bharti Airtel Ltd. ....                          |    |
| 20,000                | GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Ltd. ....        |    |
| 13,000                | Grasim Industries Ltd. ....                      |    |
| 23,000                | Hero Honda Motors Ltd. ....                      |    |
| 42,000                | Hindustan Unilever Ltd. ....                     |    |
| 70,500                | Housing Development Finance Corp., Ltd. ....     |    |
| 20,000                | ICICI Bank Ltd. ....                             |    |
| 13,000                | Infosys Technologies Ltd. ....                   |    |
| 7,428                 | UltraTech Cement Ltd. ....                       |    |

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|         |                                  |  |
|---------|----------------------------------|--|
|         | INDONESIA - 1.3%                 |  |
| 195,500 | PT Astra International Tbk ..... |  |
|         | ITALY - 1.0%                     |  |
| 30,600  | Tenaris S.A., ADR .....          |  |
|         | KAZAKHSTAN - 0.0%                |  |
| 376     | BTA Bank JSC .....               |  |
|         | MALAYSIA - 1.4%                  |  |
| 220,000 | CIMB Group Holdings Berhad ..... |  |
| 249,000 | Public Bank Berhad .....         |  |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

| SHARES                      | DESCRIPTION   |    |
|-----------------------------|---|----|
| COMMON STOCKS - (CONTINUED) |   |    |
|                             | MEXICO - 4.0%   |    |
| 21,900                      | Fomento Economico Mexicano, S.A.B. de C.V., ADR .....           | \$ |
| 40,000                      | Grupo Aeroportuario del Centro Norte, S.A.B. de C.V., ADR ..... |    |
| 380,000                     | Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A.B. de C.V., O Shares .....        |    |
| 276,000                     | Kimberly-Clark de Mexico, S.A.B. de C.V., A Shares .....        |    |
|                             | PHILIPPINES - 1.6%  |    |
| 1,550,000                   | Ayala Land, Inc. ....   |    |
| 664,672                     | Bank of the Philippine Islands .....                            |    |
|                             | POLAND - 0.8%   |    |
| 18,000                      | Bank Pekao S.A. ....  |    |
|                             | RUSSIA - 1.3%   |    |
| 25,500                      | LUKOIL, ADR .....   |    |
|                             | SOUTH AFRICA - 2.5%   |    |
| 43,610                      | Massmart Holdings Ltd. ....                                     |    |
| 18,978                      | SABMiller PLC .....   |    |
| 119,729                     | Truworths International Ltd. ....                               |    |

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|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| SOUTH KOREA - 3.1%    |   |
| 27,008                | BS Financial Group, Inc. ....                         |
| 1,256                 | E-Mart Co., Ltd. ....                                 |
| 4,300                 | Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., Preference Shares .... |
| 443                   | Shinsegae Co., Ltd. ....                              |
|                       |   |
| TAIWAN - 2.1%         |   |
| 210,005               | Taiwan Mobile Co., Ltd. ....                          |
| 643,954               | Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. ....     |
|                       |   |
| THAILAND - 2.8%       |   |
| 250,000               | PTT Exploration and Production Public Co., Ltd. ....  |
| 89,200                | Siam Cement Public (The) Co., Ltd. ....               |
| 160,600               | Siam Commercial Bank Public Co., Ltd. ....            |
|                       |   |
| TURKEY - 2.4%         |   |
| 87,635                | Akbank TAS ....                                       |
| 253,000               | Aksigorta AS ....                                     |
| 27,220                | Bim Birlesik Magazalar A.S. ....                      |
| 181,150               | Haci Omer Sabanci Holding AS ....                     |
| 124,000               | Turkiye Garanti Bankasi AS ....                       |
|                       |   |
| UNITED KINGDOM - 1.1% |   |
| 51,408                | Standard Chartered PLC ....                           |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

|   |                                   | DESCRIPTION      |                    |      |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------|
|   |                                   |                  |                    |      |
| TOTAL COMMON STOCKS.....                      |                                   |                  |                    | \$ 5 |
| (Cost \$36,840,724)                           |                                   |                  |                    |      |
| PRINCIPAL<br>VALUE<br>(LOCAL<br>CURRENCY)     | DESCRIPTION                       | STATED<br>COUPON | STATED<br>MATURITY | (US  |
| -----   |                                   |                  |                    |      |
| FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES (d) - 44.7% |                                   |                  |                    |      |
|   |                                   |                  |                    |      |
| ARGENTINA - 1.3%                              |                                   |                  |                    |      |
| 470,000                                       | Republic of Argentina (USD) ..... | 7.00%            | 09/12/13           |      |

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|               |  |        |          |
|---------------|--|--------|----------|
| 1,250,000     | Republic of Argentina (USD) .....                        | 7.00%  | 04/17/17 |
|               |  |        |          |
|               | BRAZIL - 4.7%  |        |          |
| 738,000       | Brazil Notas do Tesouro Nacional Series F<br>(BRL) ..... | 10.00% | 01/01/15 |
| 4,070,000     | Brazil Notas do Tesouro Nacional Series F<br>(BRL) ..... | 10.00% | 01/01/17 |
| 4,910,000     | Brazil Notas do Tesouro Nacional Series F<br>(BRL) ..... | 10.00% | 01/01/21 |
| 400,000       | Republic of Brazil (USD) .....                           | 5.63%  | 01/07/41 |
|               |  |        |          |
|               | CROATIA - 0.5%   |        |          |
| 600,000       | Croatia Government International Bond<br>(USD) .....     | 6.63%  | 07/14/20 |
|               |  |        |          |
|               | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - 0.8%                                |        |          |
| 450,000       | Dominican Republic (USD) .....                           | 7.50%  | 05/06/21 |
| 528,000       | Dominican Republic (USD) .....                           | 8.63%  | 04/20/27 |
|               |  |        |          |
|               | EGYPT - 0.5%   |        |          |
| 250,000       | Arab Republic of Egypt (USD) .....                       | 6.88%  | 04/30/40 |
| 400,000       | Arab Republic of Egypt (USD) .....                       | 6.88%  | 04/30/40 |
|               |  |        |          |
|               | EL SALVADOR - 0.6%                                       |        |          |
| 400,000       | Republic of El Salvador (USD) .....                      | 7.65%  | 06/15/35 |
| 270,000       | Republic of El Salvador (USD) .....                      | 7.63%  | 02/01/41 |
|               |  |        |          |
|               | HUNGARY - 4.7%   |        |          |
| 227,370,000   | Hungary Government Bond (HUF) .....                      | 6.00%  | 10/24/12 |
| 663,000,000   | Hungary Government Bond (HUF) .....                      | 6.75%  | 11/24/17 |
| 85,000,000    | Hungary Government Bond (HUF) .....                      | 6.50%  | 06/24/19 |
| 195,000,000   | Hungary Government Bond (HUF) .....                      | 7.00%  | 06/24/22 |
| 550,000       | Republic of Hungary (EUR) .....                          | 4.50%  | 01/29/14 |
|               |  |        |          |
|               | INDONESIA - 1.5%   |        |          |
| 4,000,000,000 | Indonesian Government Bond (IDR) .....                   | 10.00% | 07/15/17 |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

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PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

| PRINCIPAL<br>VALUE<br>(LOCAL<br>CURRENCY)           | DESCRIPTION   | STATED<br>COUPON | STATED<br>MATURITY | (US |
|---|---|------------------|--------------------|-----|
| FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES (d) - (CONTINUED) |   |                  |                    |     |
| INDONESIA - (CONTINUED)                             |   |                  |                    |     |
| 8,000,000,000                                       | Indonesian Government Bond (IDR) .....              | 10.50%           | 08/15/30           | \$  |
| IVORY COAST - 1.3%                                  |   |                  |                    |     |
| 2,480,000   | Ivory Coast Government Bond (USD) .....             | 2.50%            | 12/31/32           |     |
| LITHUANIA - 1.4%                                    |   |                  |                    |     |
| 1,140,000   | Republic of Lithuania (USD) .....                   | 7.38%            | 02/11/20           |     |
| 300,000   | Republic of Lithuania (USD) .....                   | 6.63%            | 02/01/22           |     |
| MALAYSIA - 1.8%                                     |   |                  |                    |     |
| 2,500,000   | Malaysia Government Bond (MYR) .....                | 3.21%            | 05/31/13           |     |
| 3,900,000   | Malaysia Government Bond (MYR) .....                | 4.01%            | 09/15/17           |     |
| MEXICO - 4.4%                                       |   |                  |                    |     |
| 16,500,000  | Mexican Bonos Desarr Fixed Rate Bond<br>(MXN) ..... | 9.50%            | 12/18/14           |     |
| 28,100,000  | Mexican Bonos Desarr Fixed Rate Bond<br>(MXN) ..... | 8.00%            | 06/11/20           |     |
| 12,800,000  | Mexican Bonos Desarr Fixed Rate Bond<br>(MXN) ..... | 7.50%            | 06/03/27           |     |
| 1,840,000   | Mexican Bonos Desarr Fixed Rate Bond<br>(MXN) ..... | 10.00%           | 11/20/36           |     |
| 100,000   | United Mexican States (USD) .....                   | 6.05%            | 01/11/40           |     |
| PAKISTAN - 0.6%                                     |   |                  |                    |     |
| 900,000   | Islamic Republic of Pakistan (USD) ....             | 6.88%            | 06/01/17           |     |
| PERU - 1.1%   |   |                  |                    |     |
| 2,900,000   | Peruvian Government Bond (PEN) .....                | 7.84%            | 08/12/20           |     |
| QATAR - 0.9%  |   |                  |                    |     |
| 990,000   | State of Qatar (USD) .....                          | 5.25%            | 01/20/20           |     |
| RUSSIA - 3.4%                                       |   |                  |                    |     |
| 50,000,000  | Russian Foreign Bond (RUB) .....                    | 7.85%            | 03/10/18           |     |

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|            |                                  |       |          |       |
|------------|----------------------------------|-------|----------|-------|
| 65,000,000 | Russian Foreign Bond (RUB) ..... | 7.85% | 03/10/18 | ----- |
|            | SENEGAL - 0.4%                   |       |          | ----- |
| 450,000    | Republic of Senegal (USD) .....  | 8.75% | 05/13/21 | ----- |
|            | SERBIA - 1.5%                    |       |          | ----- |
| 1,100,000  | Republic of Serbia (USD) .....   | 7.25% | 09/28/21 | ----- |
| 61,000,000 | Serbia Treasury Bill (RSD) ..... | (b)   | 12/13/12 | ----- |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

| PRINCIPAL<br>VALUE<br>(LOCAL<br>CURRENCY)           | DESCRIPTION  | STATED<br>COUPON | STATED<br>MATURITY | (US   |
|---|--|------------------|--------------------|-------|
| FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES (d) - (CONTINUED) |  |                  |                    |       |
|   | SOUTH AFRICA - 4.0%  |                  |                    |       |
| 520,000   | Eskom Holdings Ltd. (USD) .....                                      | 5.75%            | 01/26/21           | \$    |
| 11,350,000  | Republic of South Africa (ZAR) .....                                 | 8.25%            | 09/15/17           |       |
| 17,470,000  | Republic of South Africa (ZAR) .....                                 | 10.50%           | 12/21/26           | ----- |
|   | TURKEY - 3.1%  |                  |                    | ----- |
| 1,000,000   | Republic of Turkey (USD) .....                                       | 6.25%            | 09/26/22           |       |
| 1,470,000   | Turkey Government Bond (TRY) .....                                   | 16.00%           | 08/28/13           |       |
| 1,300,000   | Turkey Government Bond (TRY) .....                                   | 9.00%            | 01/27/16           |       |
| 1,700,000   | Turkey Government Bond (TRY) .....                                   | 10.50%           | 01/15/20           | ----- |
|   | UKRAINE - 0.1%   |                  |                    | ----- |
| 80,000  | Ukraine Government Bond (USD) .....                                  | 6.58%            | 11/21/16           | ----- |
|   | UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - 0.9%  |                  |                    | ----- |
| 1,000,000   | Dubai Government International Bond (USD)                            | 7.75%            | 10/05/20           | ----- |
|   | URUGUAY - 1.3%   |                  |                    | ----- |
| 13,200,000  | Republica Orient Uruguay, Inflation<br>Adjusted Bond (UYU) (c) ..... | 5.00%            | 09/14/18           |       |
| 4,600,000   | Republica Orient Uruguay, Inflation<br>Adjusted Bond (UYU) (c) ..... | 4.25%            | 04/05/27           | ----- |

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|                  |                             |        |          |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--------|----------|
| VENEZUELA - 3.4% |                             |        |          |
| 300,000          | Republic of Venezuela (USD) | 8.50%  | 10/08/14 |
| 2,150,000        | Republic of Venezuela (USD) | 5.75%  | 02/26/16 |
| 600,000          | Republic of Venezuela (USD) | 7.75%  | 10/13/19 |
| 300,000          | Republic of Venezuela (USD) | 12.75% | 08/23/22 |
| 350,000          | Republic of Venezuela (USD) | 7.65%  | 04/21/25 |
| 700,000          | Republic of Venezuela (USD) | 11.95% | 08/05/31 |

|                |                                     |       |          |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| VIETNAM - 0.5% |                                     |       |          |
| 500,000        | Socialist Republic of Vietnam (USD) | 6.88% | 01/15/16 |

TOTAL FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES ..... 5  
 (Cost \$51,430,909)

FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (d) - 12.7%

|               |   |       |          |
|---------------|---|-------|----------|
| BRAZIL - 1.6% |   |       |          |
| 200,000       | Banco do Estado do Rio Grande do Sul<br>(USD) | 7.38% | 02/02/22 |
| 200,000       | Centrais Eletricas Brasileiras S.A. (USD)     | 5.75% | 10/27/21 |
| 350,000       | Odebrecht Finance Ltd. (USD)                  | 7.50% | 09/14/15 |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

| PRINCIPAL<br>VALUE<br>(LOCAL<br>CURRENCY)           | DESCRIPTION                                    | STATED<br>COUPON | STATED<br>MATURITY | (US |
|---|--|------------------|--------------------|-----|
| FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (d) - (CONTINUED) |  |                  |                    |     |
| BRAZIL - (CONTINUED)                                |  |                  |                    |     |
| 550,000   | OGX Petroleo e Gas Participacoes S.A.<br>(USD) | 8.50%            | 06/01/18           | \$  |
| 300,000   | OSX 3 Leasing B.V. (USD)                       | 9.25%            | 03/20/15           |     |
| 230,000   | Rearden G Holdings Eins GmbH (USD)             | 7.88%            | 03/30/20           |     |
| CHINA - 0.8%  |  |                  |                    |     |
| 400,000   | China Overseas Finance Cayman II Ltd.<br>(USD) | 5.50%            | 11/10/20           |     |
| 500,000   | MCC Holding (Hong Kong) Corp. Ltd. (USD)       | 4.88%            | 07/29/16           |     |
| DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - 0.3%                           |  |                  |                    |     |
| 350,000   | AES Andres Dominicana/Itabo Dominicana         |                  |                    |     |



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|                      |   |        |          |  |
|----------------------|---|--------|----------|--|
|                      | (USD) .....   | 9.50%  | 11/12/20 |  |
| EL SALVADOR - 0.4%   |   |        |          |  |
| 450,000              | Telemovil Finance Co., Ltd. (USD) .....                   | 8.00%  | 10/01/17 |  |
| GUATEMALA - 0.4%     |   |        |          |  |
| 400,000              | Industrial Subordinated Trust (USD) ...                   | 8.25%  | 07/27/21 |  |
| INDONESIA - 0.5%     |   |        |          |  |
| 410,000              | Majapahit Holding B.V. (USD) .....                        | 7.75%  | 10/17/16 |  |
| 150,000              | PT Adaro Indonesia (USD) .....                            | 7.63%  | 10/22/19 |  |
| KAZAKHSTAN - 0.0%    |   |        |          |  |
| 10                   | BTA Bank JSC (USD) (e).....                               | 10.75% | 07/01/18 |  |
| MEXICO - 2.8%        |   |        |          |  |
| 540,000              | Axtel S.A.B. de C.V. (USD) .....                          | 9.00%  | 09/22/19 |  |
| 400,000              | Corporacion GEO S.A. de C.V. (USD) ....                   | 8.88%  | 03/27/22 |  |
| 684,000              | Desarrolladora Homex S.A. (USD) .....                     | 9.50%  | 12/11/19 |  |
| 200,000              | Desarrolladora Homex S.A. (USD) .....                     | 9.75%  | 03/25/20 |  |
| 642,688              | GEO Maquinaria S.A. de C.V. (USD) ....                    | 9.63%  | 05/02/21 |  |
| 100,000              | Petroleos Mexicanos (USD) .....                           | 6.50%  | 06/02/41 |  |
| 457,000              | Servicios Corporativos Javier Sapi de C.V.<br>(USD) ..... | 9.88%  | 04/06/21 |  |
| 125,000              | Urbi Desarrollos Urbanos Sab de C.V.<br>(USD) .....       | 9.50%  | 01/21/20 |  |
| 200,000              | Urbi Desarrollos Urbanos Sab de C.V.<br>(USD) .....       | 9.75%  | 02/03/22 |  |
| MULTINATIONAL - 0.6% |   |        |          |  |
| 700,000              | African Export-Import Bank (USD) .....                    | 5.75%  | 07/27/16 |  |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

| PRINCIPAL<br>VALUE<br>(LOCAL<br>CURRENCY)           | DESCRIPTION                  | STATED<br>COUPON | STATED<br>MATURITY | (US |
|---|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----|
| FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (d) - (CONTINUED) |                              |                  |                    |     |
| NIGERIA - 0.3%                                      |                              |                  |                    |     |
| 350,000   | GTB Finance B.V. (USD) ..... | 7.50%            | 05/19/16           | \$  |

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|   |  |        |          |
|---|--|--------|----------|
| PHILIPPINES - 0.2%                            |  |        |          |
| 250,000                                       | Alliance Global Group, Inc. (USD) .....                            | 6.50%  | 08/18/17 |
| RUSSIA - 2.2%                                 |  |        |          |
| 450,000                                       | Alfa Bank (USD) .....  | 7.88%  | 09/25/17 |
| 200,000                                       | Alfa Bank OJSC Via Alfa Bond Issuance PLC<br>(USD) .....           | 7.75%  | 04/28/21 |
| 350,000                                       | Home Credit & Finance Bank via Eurasia<br>Capital S.A. (USD) ..... | 7.00%  | 03/18/14 |
| 300,000                                       | LUKOIL International Finance B.V. (USD)                            | 7.25%  | 11/05/19 |
| 400,000                                       | Metalloinvest Finance Ltd. (USD) .....                             | 6.50%  | 07/21/16 |
| 300,000                                       | Sberbank of Russia via SB Capital S.A.<br>(USD) .....              | 6.13%  | 02/07/22 |
| 200,000                                       | Vimpelcom Holdings B.V. (USD) .....                                | 7.50%  | 03/01/22 |
| 200,000                                       | Vimpelcom Ltd. (USD) .....   | 6.49%  | 02/02/16 |
| 150,000                                       | VTB Bank OJSC Via VTB Capital S.A. (USD)                           | 6.55%  | 10/13/20 |
| TURKEY - 0.4%                                 |  |        |          |
| 500,000                                       | Yasar Holdings (USD) .....   | 9.63%  | 10/07/15 |
| UKRAINE - 0.4%                                |  |        |          |
| 200,000                                       | Metinvest B.V. (USD) .....   | 8.75%  | 02/14/18 |
| 250,000                                       | MHP S.A. (USD) .....   | 10.25% | 04/29/15 |
| UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - 1.2%                   |  |        |          |
| 750,000                                       | Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (USD)                          | 7.38%  | 10/21/20 |
| 600,000                                       | IPIC GMTN Ltd. (USD) .....   | 5.50%  | 03/01/22 |
| VENEZUELA - 0.6%                              |  |        |          |
| 750,000                                       | Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (USD) .....                            | 8.50%  | 11/02/17 |
| TOTAL FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES ..... |  |        | 1        |
| (Cost \$14,504,559)                           |  |        |          |
| TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 103.9% .....              |  |        | 12       |
| (Cost \$102,776,192) (f)                      |  |        |          |
| OUTSTANDING LOAN - (4.9%) .....               |  |        | (        |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

DESCRIPTION

NET OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - 1.0% .....

\$

NET ASSETS - 100.0% ..... \$ 11  
=====

- 
- (a) All of these securities are available to serve as collateral for the outstanding loan.
  - (b) Zero coupon bond.
  - (c) Security whose principal value is adjusted in accordance with changes to the country's Consumer Price Index. Interest is calculated on the basis of the current adjusted principal value.
  - (d) Portfolio securities are included in a country based upon their underlying credit exposure as determined by Aberdeen Asset Management Inc., the Fund's investment sub-advisor.
  - (e) Security is a "step-up" bond where the coupon increases or steps up at a predetermined date. The interest rate shown reflects the rate in effect at March 31, 2012.
  - (f) Aggregate cost for financial reporting purposes, which approximates the aggregate cost for federal income tax purposes. As of March 31, 2012, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of value over tax cost was \$23,247,474 and the aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of tax cost over value was \$2,453,768.

ADR American Depositary Receipt

Currency Abbreviations

|     |                      |
|-----|----------------------|
| BRL | Brazilian Real       |
| EUR | Euro Dollar          |
| HUF | Hungarian Forint     |
| IDR | Indonesian Rupiah    |
| MXN | Mexican Peso         |
| MYR | Malaysian Ringgit    |
| PEN | Peruvian New Sol     |
| RSD | Serbian Dinar        |
| RUB | Russian Ruble        |
| TRY | Turkish Lira         |
| USD | United States Dollar |
| UYU | Uruguayan Peso       |
| ZAR | South African Rand   |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

VALUATION INPUTS

A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of March 31, 2012 is as follows (see Note A - Portfolio Valuation in the Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments):

ASSETS TABLE

|   | TOTAL<br>VALUE AT<br>3/31/2012 | LEVEL 1<br>QUOTED<br>PRICES | LEVEL 2<br>SIGNIFICANT<br>OBSERVABLE<br>INPUTS |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Common Stocks:                            |                                |                             |  |
| Kazakhstan.....                           | \$                2            | \$                --        | \$                2                            |
| Other Country Categories*.....            | 55,300,227                     | 55,300,227                  | --   |
| Total Common Stocks.....                  | 55,300,229                     | 55,300,227                  | 2  |
| Foreign Sovereign Bonds and Notes*.....   | 53,222,325                     | --                          | 53,222,325                                     |
| Foreign Corporate Bonds and Notes*.....   | 15,047,344                     | --                          | 15,047,344                                     |
| Total Investments.....                    | 123,569,898                    | 55,300,227                  | 68,269,671                                     |
| Forward Foreign Currency Contracts**..... | 225,436                        | --                          | 225,436  |
| Total.....                                | \$ 123,795,334                 | \$ 55,300,227               | \$ 68,495,107                                  |

LIABILITIES TABLE

|   | TOTAL<br>VALUE AT<br>3/31/2012 | LEVEL 1<br>QUOTED<br>PRICES | LEVEL 2<br>SIGNIFICANT<br>OBSERVABLE<br>INPUTS |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Forward Foreign Currency Contracts**..... | \$        (302,049)            | \$                  --      | \$        (302,049)                            |

\* See the Portfolio of Investments for country breakout. Country categories are only shown separately if they include holdings in two or more levels or have holdings in only Level 3.

\*\* See the Schedule of Forward Foreign Currency Contracts for contract and currency detail.

All transfers in and out of the Levels during the period are assumed to be transferred on the last day of the period at their current value. As of March 31, 2012, the Fund transferred common stock valued at \$2 from Level 1 to Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The common stock that transferred from Level 1 to Level 2 did so as a result of a lack of trading volume on the primary exchange on March 30, 2012, the last business day of the month.

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) - (CONTINUED)  
MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

| CURRENCY EXPOSURE<br>DIVERSIFICATION | % OF TOTAL<br>INVESTMENTS # |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| -----                                | -----                       |

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|     |        |
|-----|--------|
| USD | 43.6%  |
| HKD | 6.2    |
| BRL | 6.0    |
| MXN | 5.9    |
| ZAR | 5.9    |
| INR | 4.3    |
| TRY | 4.0    |
| RUB | 3.3    |
| MYR | 3.1    |
| KRW | 3.0    |
| THB | 2.7    |
| IDR | 2.1    |
| TWD | 2.0    |
| HUF | 1.7    |
| PHP | 1.5    |
| UYU | 1.3    |
| GBP | 1.0    |
| PEN | 1.0    |
| PLN | 0.7    |
| RSD | 0.6    |
| EUR | 0.1    |
| KZT | 0.0 ## |

-----  
Total 100.0%  
=====

# The weightings include the impact of  
currency forwards.

## Amount is less than 0.1%.

| INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION                  | % OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS |
|--|------------------------|
| Government Bonds and Notes               | 43.1%                  |
| Commercial Banks                         | 11.5                   |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels              | 8.0                    |
| Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment | 3.9                    |
| Real Estate Management & Development     | 3.9                    |
| Wireless Telecommunication Services      | 2.9                    |
| Metals & Mining                          | 2.6                    |
| Beverages                                | 2.1                    |
| Automobiles                              | 2.0                    |
| Food & Staples Retailing                 | 1.8                    |
| Diversified Financial Services           | 1.8                    |
| Household Durables                       | 1.7                    |
| Electric Utilities                       | 1.5                    |
| Pharmaceuticals                          | 1.5                    |
| Construction Materials                   | 1.4                    |
| Specialty Retail                         | 1.0                    |
| Energy Equipment & Services              | 0.9                    |
| Insurance                                | 0.9                    |
| Multiline Retail                         | 0.9                    |
| Tobacco                                  | 0.8                    |
| Household Products                       | 0.8                    |
| Thrifts & Mortgage Finance               | 0.8                    |
| Diversified Telecommunication Services   | 0.7                    |
| IT Services                              | 0.6                    |
| Special Purpose Banks                    | 0.6                    |
| Chemicals                                | 0.5                    |

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|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Transportation Infrastructure | 0.5 |
| Capital Markets               | 0.5 |
| Construction & Engineering    | 0.3 |
| Machinery                     | 0.3 |
| Food Products                 | 0.2 |

-----  
 Total 100.0%  
 =====

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
 SCHEDULE OF FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS  
 MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS

| SETTLEMENT DATE | COUNTERPARTY | AMOUNT PURCHASED (a) | AMOUNT SOLD (a)   | PURCHASE VALUE AS OF MARCH 31, 2012 | SALE VALUE AS OF MARCH 31, |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 04/20/12        | BAR          | ZAR 2,528,000        | USD 310,177       | \$ 328,544                          | \$ 31                      |
| 04/20/12        | CSFB         | ZAR 5,218,000        | USD 643,467       | 678,142                             | 64                         |
| 04/20/12        | SSB          | ZAR 5,735,000        | USD 746,016       | 745,332                             | 74                         |
| 06/04/12        | JPM          | USD 2,196,505        | BRL 3,834,000     | 2,196,505                           | 2,07                       |
| 04/20/12        | BAR          | USD 625,749          | EUR 490,000       | 625,749                             | 65                         |
| 04/20/12        | CIT          | USD 1,162,937        | HUF 285,187,000   | 1,162,937                           | 1,28                       |
| 04/20/12        | RBS          | USD 2,493,090        | HUF 541,675,000   | 2,493,090                           | 2,44                       |
| 06/04/12        | UBS          | USD 722,239          | IDR 6,734,876,000 | 722,239                             | 73                         |
| 04/20/12        | CSFB         | USD 183,438          | MXN 2,491,000     | 183,438                             | 19                         |
| 04/20/12        | GSI          | USD 576,511          | TRY 1,087,000     | 576,511                             | 60                         |
| 04/20/12        | DBL          | USD 1,653,985        | ZAR 13,481,000    | 1,653,985                           | 1,75                       |

Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation).....

(a) Please see portfolio of investments for currency descriptions.

Counterparty Abbreviations:

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| BAR  | Barclays Bank               |
| CIT  | Citibank, NA                |
| CSFB | Credit Suisse First Boston  |
| DBL  | Deutsche Bank London        |
| GSI  | Goldman Sachs International |
| JPM  | JPMorgan Chase              |
| RBS  | Royal Bank of Scotland      |
| SSB  | State Street Bank           |
| UBS  | UBS                         |

See Notes to Quarterly Portfolio of Investments

NOTES TO QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

VALUATION AND INVESTMENT PRACTICES

A. PORTFOLIO VALUATION:

The net asset value ("NAV") of the Common Shares of First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund (the "Fund") is determined daily as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, on each day the NYSE is open for trading. If the NYSE closes early on a valuation day, the NAV is determined as of that time. Domestic debt securities and foreign securities are priced using data reflecting the earlier closing of the principal markets for those securities. The NAV per Common Share is calculated by dividing the value of all assets of the Fund (including accrued interest and dividends), less all liabilities (including accrued expenses, dividends declared but unpaid and any borrowings of the Fund), by the total number of Common Shares outstanding.

The Fund's investments are valued daily in accordance with valuation procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees and in accordance with provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). All securities of the Fund initially expressed in foreign currencies will be converted to U.S. dollars using exchange rates in effect at the time of valuation. The Fund's securities will be valued as follows:

Bond, notes and other debt securities are valued on the basis of valuations provided by dealers who make markets in such securities or by an independent pricing service approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees, which may use the following valuation inputs when available:

- 1) benchmark yields;
- 2) reported trades;
- 3) broker/dealer quotes;
- 4) issuer spreads;
- 5) benchmark securities;
- 6) bids and offers; and
- 7) reference data including market research publications.

Common stocks and other securities listed on any national or foreign exchange (excluding the NASDAQ National Market ("NASDAQ") and the London Stock Exchange Alternative Investment Market ("AIM")) are valued at the last sale price on the exchange on which they are principally traded. If there are no transactions on the valuation day, the securities are valued at the mean between the most recent bid and asked prices.

Securities listed on the NASDAQ or the AIM are valued at the official closing price. If there is no official closing price on the valuation day,

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the securities are valued at the mean between the most recent bid and asked prices.

Securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued at their closing bid prices.

Forward foreign currency contracts are valued at the current day's interpolated foreign exchange rate, as calculated using the current day's spot rate, and the thirty, sixty, ninety and one-hundred eighty day forward rates provided by an independent pricing service.

Debt securities having a remaining maturity of sixty days or less when purchased are valued at cost adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts.

In the event that market quotations are not readily available, the pricing service does not provide a valuation for a particular asset, or the valuations are deemed unreliable, the Fund's Board of Trustees has designated First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust") to use a fair value method to value the Fund's securities and other investments. Additionally, if events occur after the close of the principal market for particular securities (e.g., domestic debt and foreign securities), but before the Fund values its assets, that could materially affect NAV, First Trust may use a fair value method to value the Fund's securities and other investments. The use of fair value pricing by the Fund is governed by valuation procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees, and in accordance with the provisions of the 1940 Act. As a general principle, the fair value of a security is the amount which the Fund might reasonably expect to receive for the security upon its current sale. However, in light of the judgment involved in fair valuations, there can be no assurance that a fair value assigned to a particular security will be the amount which the Fund might be able to receive upon its current sale. Fair valuation of a debt security will be based on the consideration of all available information, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) the fundamental business data relating to the issuer, or economic data relating to the country of issue;
- 2) an evaluation of the forces which influence the market in which these securities are purchased and sold;
- 3) the type, size and cost of security;
- 4) the financial statements of the issuer, or the financial condition of the country of issue;
- 5) the credit quality and cash flow of the issuer, or country of issue, based on the Sub-Advisor's or external analysis;
- 6) the information as to any transactions in or offers for the security;

NOTES TO QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

- 7) the price and extent of public trading in similar securities



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(or equity securities) of the issuer/borrower, or comparable companies;

- 8) the coupon payments;
- 9) the quality, value and salability of collateral, if any, securing the security;
- 10) the business prospects of the issuer, including any ability to obtain money or resources from a parent or affiliate and an assessment of the issuer's management (for corporate debt only);
- 11) the economic, political and social prospects/developments of the country of issue and the assessment of the country's governmental leaders/officials (for sovereign debt only);
- 12) the prospects for the issuer's industry, and multiples (of earnings and/or cash flows) being paid for similar businesses in that industry (for corporate debt only); and
- 13) other relevant factors.

Fair valuation of an equity security will be based on the consideration of all available information, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) the type of security;
- 2) the size of the holding;
- 3) the initial cost of the security;
- 4) transactions in comparable securities;
- 5) price quotes from dealers and/or pricing services;
- 6) relationships among various securities;
- 7) information obtained by contacting the issuer, analysts, or the appropriate stock exchange;
- 8) an analysis of the issuer's financial statements; and
- 9) the existence of merger proposals or tender offers that might affect the value of the security.

If the equity security in question is a foreign security, the following additional information may be considered:

- 1) the value of similar foreign securities traded on other foreign markets;
- 2) ADR trading of similar securities;
- 3) closed-end fund trading of similar securities;
- 4) foreign currency exchange activity;
- 5) the trading prices of financial products that are tied to baskets of foreign securities;
- 6) factors relating to the event that precipitated the pricing

problem;

- 7) whether the event is likely to recur; and
- 8) whether the effects of the event are isolated or whether they affect entire markets, countries or regions.

The Fund is subject to fair value accounting standards that define fair value, establish the framework for measuring fair value and provide a three-level hierarchy for fair valuation based upon the inputs to the valuation as of the measurement date. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- o Level 1 - Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical investments. An active market is a market in which transactions for the investment occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.
- o Level 2 - Level 2 inputs are observable inputs, either directly or indirectly, and include the following:
  - o Quoted prices for similar investments in active markets.
  - o Quoted prices for identical or similar investments in markets that are non-active. A non-active market is a market where there are few transactions for the investment, the prices are not current, or price quotations vary substantially either over time or among market makers, or in which little information is released publicly.
  - o Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the investment (for example, interest rates and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, volatilities, prepayment speeds, loss severities, credit risks, and default rates).
  - o Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.
- o Level 3 - Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs may reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the investment.

The inputs or methodology used for valuing investments are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those investments. A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of March 31, 2012, is included with the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

NOTES TO QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND  
MARCH 31, 2012 (UNAUDITED)

**B. SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS:**

Securities transactions are recorded as of the trade date. Realized gains and

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losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis.

Securities purchased on a when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitment basis may have extended settlement periods. The value of the security so purchased is subject to market fluctuations during this period. The Fund maintains liquid assets with a current value at least equal to the amount of its when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitments until payment is made. At March 31, 2012, the Fund had no when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitments.

### C. FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS:

The Fund is subject to foreign currency risk in the normal course of pursuing its investment objectives. Forward foreign currency contracts are agreements to exchange one currency for another at a future date and at a specified price. The Fund may use forward foreign currency contracts to facilitate transactions in foreign securities and to manage the Fund's foreign currency exposure. These contracts are valued daily, and the Fund's net equity therein, representing unrealized gain or loss on the contracts as measured by the difference between the forward foreign exchange rates at the dates of entry into the contracts and the forward rates at the reporting date, is included on the Schedule of Forward Foreign Currency Contracts. Risks arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts and from movement in currency and securities values and interest rates. Due to the risks, the Fund could incur losses in excess of the net unrealized value shown on the Schedule of Forward Foreign Currency Contracts.

During the period ended March 31, 2012, the open and close notional values of forward foreign currency contracts were \$18,542,014 and \$7,227,901, respectively.

### D. FOREIGN CURRENCY:

The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rates prevailing at the end of the period. Purchases and sales of investment securities and items of income and expense are translated on the respective dates of such transactions. Net realized foreign currency gains and losses include the effect of changes in exchange rates between trade date and settlement date on investment security transactions, foreign currency transactions and interest and dividends received.

## ITEM 2. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

- (a) The registrant's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d))) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially

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affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 3. EXHIBITS.

Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act and Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached hereto.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

(Registrant) First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund  
-----

By (Signature and Title)\* /s/ Mark R. Bradley  
-----

Mark R. Bradley, President and Chief Executive Officer  
(principal executive officer)

Date May 8, 2012  
-----

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title)\* /s/ Mark R. Bradley  
-----

Mark R. Bradley, President and Chief Executive Officer  
(principal executive officer)

Date May 8, 2012  
-----

By (Signature and Title)\* /s/ James M. Dykas  
-----

James M. Dykas, Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and  
Chief Accounting Officer  
(principal financial officer)

Date May 8, 2012  
-----

\* Print the name and title of each signing officer under his or her signature.