General Finance CORP Form S-3 January 10, 2012

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 10, 2012

File No. 333-___

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 FORM S-3 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

GENERAL FINANCE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 7359 (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number) 32-0163571 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

39 East Union Street Pasadena, California 91103 (626) 584-9722

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Ronald F. Valenta, Chief Executive Officer 39 East Union Street Pasadena, California 91103 (626) 584-9722

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Christopher A. Wilson, Esq. General Counsel, Vice President & Secretary 39 East Union Street Pasadena, California 91103 (626) 584-9722 (626) 795-8090 — Facsimile

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this registration statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933 check the following box. b

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement

for the same offering. 0

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. 0

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer o	Accelerated filer o	Non-accelerated filer o	Smaller reporting company þ
	(Do not check i	f a smaller reporting company)	

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of	Amount to be	Proposed Maximum	Proposed Maximum	Amount of
Securities to be Registered	Registered(1)	Offering Price Per Security	Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Registration Fee
Common stock, par value \$.0001 per share(2)	1,171,339	\$5.00	\$5,856,695	\$671.18

(1) Consists of shares of common stock issued to the selling stockholder in connection with the acquisition of Mobile Office Acquisition Corp. on October 1, 2008.

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

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

PROSPECTUS

Subject to Completion, dated January 10, 2012

GENERAL FINANCE CORPORATION

1,171,339 Shares of Common Stock Offering Price of \$5.00 Per Share

This prospectus relates to the sale of up to 1,171,339 shares of our common stock which may be offered by the selling stockholder identified on page 3 of this prospectus at a price of \$5.00 per share. All such shares which may be offered by the selling stockholder are presently issued and outstanding. The selling stockholder will be deemed to be an underwriter and will be required to sell General Finance Corporation's common stock at a fixed price of \$5.00 per share for the duration of the offering.

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of common stock by the selling stockholder. We are registering the offer and sale of these shares pursuant to certain registration rights granted to the selling stockholder. We will pay the expenses incurred in connection with the registration of the shares, including all registration, listing and qualification fees, printer and accounting fees, our legal fees and up to \$50,000 of the selling stockholder's legal fees. The selling stockholder will pay any underwriting fees, discounts, concessions, or brokerage commissions associated with the sale of his shares of common stock.

The selling stockholder may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you in connection with this offering. You should carefully read this prospectus and any related free writing prospectus, as well as any documents incorporated by reference, before buying the common stock being offered.

On December 30, 2011, the aggregate value of our outstanding Common Stock held by non-affiliates was \$43,657,308. We have not previously offered pursuant to General Instruction I.B.6. of Form S-3 any securities during the prior twelve calendar month period that ends on, and includes, the date of this prospectus.

Our units, warrants and common stock are listed on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbols "GFNCL," "GFNCZ" and "GFN," respectively. On January 9, 2012 on the NASDAQ Global Market, the closing price of the units was \$3.30 per unit, the bid price of the warrants was \$0.25 per warrant and the closing price of the common stock was \$2.53 per share.

The purchase of our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You are urged to carefully read the "Risk Factors" incorporated by reference into this prospectus which describe specific risks and certain other information associated with an investment in our common stock that you should consider before you make your investment decision.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2012.

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You should rely only on the information that we have provided or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representation. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the securities offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. You should assume that the information in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus, any applicable prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus, any applicable prospectus, or any sale of a security.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents.

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed, will be filed or will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

References in this prospectus to "we," "us," "our" or the "Company" refer to General Finance Corporation, a Delaware corporation, and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, including GFN North America Corp., a Delaware corporation, which we refer to as "GFNNA," and its subsidiary Pac-Van, Inc., an Indiana corporation which we refer to as "Pac-Van," GFN U.S. Australasia Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation which we refer to as "GFN U.S.," its majority-owed subsidiary Royal Wolf Holdings Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "Royal Wolf Holdings," its subsidiary GFN Australasia Finance Pty Limited, an Australian corporation, which we refer to as "GFN Finance," its subsidiary RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "RWA," and Royal Wolf Trading Australia Pty Limited, which we refer to as "Royal Wolf Trading." Royal Wolf Holdings and its subsidiaries are collectively referred to herein as "Royal Wolf."

References in this prospectus to "\$" are to United States Dollars, and references to "A\$" are to Australian Dollars.

This prospectus is part of a resale registration statement that we filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the SEC. The selling stockholder may offer and sell, from time to time, an aggregate of up to 1,171,339 shares of our common stock under this prospectus.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, referred to in this prospectus as the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, referred to in this prospectus as the Exchange Act. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may include, without limitation, statements relating to our plans, strategies, objectives, expectations and intentions and are intended to be made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Some of the forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terms such as "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "could," "seek," "intends," "plans," "estimates," "anticipates" or other comparable terms important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties discussed in "Risk Factors" should be considered in evaluating the Company's forward-looking statements. You should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. Further, any forward-looking statements. Private seaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary contains information about General Finance Corporation and the offering of our common stock by the selling stockholder. For a more complete understanding of this offering, you should read the entire prospectus carefully, including the risk factors. You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. The selling stockholder is not making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. It does not contain all of the information that may be important to you in making a decision to purchase our common stock. For a more complete understanding of General Finance Corporation and the offering of its common stock, we urge you to read this entire prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference carefully, including the "Risk Factors" sections and our financial statements and the notes to those statements incorporated by reference herein.

References in this prospectus to "we", "us," "General Finance," "GFN" or the "Company" refer to General Finance Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries. These subsidiaries include: GFN North America Corp., a Delaware corporation which we refer to as "GFNNA;" Pac-Van, Inc., an Indiana corporation which we refer to as "Pac-Van;" GFN U.S. Australasia Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation which we refer to as "GFN U.S.;" Royal Wolf Holdings Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings?" GFN Australasia Finance Pty Ltd, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "GFN Finance;" RWA Holdings Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "RWA;" and Royal Wolf Trading Australia Pty Limited, an Australian corporation which we refer to as "Royal Wolf Trading." We refer to Royal Wolf Holdings and its subsidiaries collectively as "Royal Wolf."

Company Overview

We incorporated in Delaware on October 14, 2005 and completed our initial public offering (the "IPO") in April 2006. Our long-term strategy and business plan is to acquire and operate rental services and specialty finance businesses in North and South America, Europe and the Asia-Pacific (or Pan-Pacific) area.

On September 13, 2007 (September 14 in Australia), we acquired Royal Wolf by purchasing the outstanding shares of RWA. The purchase price paid to the former shareholders of RWA was \$64.3 million, which consisted of \$44.7 million in cash, the issuance to Bison Capital Australia, L.P., which we refer to as "Bison Capital", one of the sellers, of shares of common stock of GFN U.S. and the issuance of a note to Bison Capital. Royal Wolf leases and sells storage containers, portable container buildings and freight containers in Australia and New Zealand, which is considered geographically by us to be the Asia-Pacific area.

On October 1, 2008, we acquired Pac-Van through a merger with Mobile Office Acquisition Corp., which we refer to as "MOAC", the parent of Pac-Van, and our wholly-owned subsidiary, GFNNA. In addition to assuming Pac-Van's senior and other debt, we paid \$46.5 million to the stockholders of MOAC by a combination of \$19.4 million in cash, 4,000,000 shares of GFN restricted common stock (valued at \$25.6 million) and a 20-month subordinated promissory note in the aggregate principal amount of \$1.5 million bearing interest at 8% per annum. Pac-Van leases and sells storage and office containers, modular buildings and mobile offices in the United States.

The economic downturn in the United States, particularly in the construction –related industries (where Pac-Van has currently over 30% of its business and historically has had over 40%), has had an adverse impact on the Company's operating results. To offset this adverse effect, we undertook cost-reduction and other measures to reduce our indebtedness and to strive to comply with financial loan covenants. Reference is made to the "Liquidity and Financial Condition" section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 and in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended September 30, 2011 for a discussion of the more significant capital transactions we undertook in improving our senior and other debt leverage position, including an initial public offering in Australia of a noncontrolling interest in Royal Wolf.

We do business in two distinct, but related industries; mobile storage and modular space, which we collectively refer to as the "portable services industry." Our two operating subsidiaries, Royal Wolf and Pac-Van, lease and sell their products through seventeen customer service centers, which we refer to as "CSCs" in Australia, six CSCs in New Zealand and twenty-six branch locations across eighteen states in the United States. As of September 30, 2011, we had 234 and 180 employees and 31,012 and 11,423 lease fleet units in the Asia-Pacific area and United States, respectively.

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Our products include the following:

Mobile Storage

Storage Containers. Storage containers consist of new and used shipping containers that provide a flexible, low cost alternative to warehousing, while offering greater security, convenience and immediate accessibility. Our storage products include general purpose dry storage containers, refrigerated containers and specialty containers in a range of standard and modified sizes, designs and storage capacities. Specialty containers include blast-resistant units, hoarding units and hazardous-waste units. We also offer storage vans, also known as storage trailers or dock-height trailers.

Freight Containers. Freight containers are specifically designed for transport of products by road and rail. Our freight container products include curtain-side, refrigerated and bulk cargo containers, together with a range of standard and industry-specific dry freight containers.

Modular Space

Modular Buildings. Also known as manufactured buildings, modular buildings provide customers with additional space and are often modified to customer specifications. Modular buildings range in size from 1,000 to more than 30,000 square feet and may be highly customized.

Mobile Offices. Also known as trailers or construction trailers, mobile offices are re-locatable units with aluminum or wood exteriors on wood (or steel) frames on a steel carriage fitted with axles, allowing for an assortment of "add-ons" to provide comfortable and convenient temporary space solutions.

Portable Container Buildings and Office Containers. Portable container buildings and office containers are either modified or specifically-manufactured containers that provide self-contained office space with maximum design flexibility. Office containers in the U.S. are oftentimes referred to as ground level offices.

Additional Information

Our principal executive offices are located at 39 East Union Street, Pasadena, California 91103 and our telephone number is (626) 584-9722.

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SELLING STOCKHOLDER

On October 1, 2008, in connection with our acquisition of MOAC, we issued 1,171,339 shares of common stock to Ronald Valenta. We also issued 804,545 shares of our common stock to three other former stockholders of MOAC in the same acquisition.

We are only registering the 1,171,339 shares of our common stock issued to Ronald Valenta with this prospectus pursuant to the registration rights granted to the selling stockholder under the terms of a stockholders agreement entered into in connection with the acquisition of MOAC. Once this registration statement is declared effective, Ronald Valenta may elect to resell or otherwise dispose of these shares of common stock from time to time. The beneficial ownership information in the below table is based solely on information provided to General Finance Corporation by Ronald Valenta.

Pursuant to this prospectus, Mr. Valenta may offer an aggregate of 1,171,339 shares of our common stock for resale. The shares are being offered for the account of Ronald Valenta as identified in the table below.

The following table sets forth information as of January 9, 2012 and includes the number of shares of our common stock beneficially owned by Mr. Valenta prior to the offering and the number of shares of common stock that will be owned by Mr. Valenta upon completion of the offering or offerings pursuant to this prospectus, assuming Mr. Valenta sells all of the shares of common stock offered hereby. Only Ronald Valenta or his transferees, pledgees, donees, assignees, distributees, successors and others who later come to hold the interest of Ronald Valenta may offer and sell the common stock pursuant to this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. Ronald Valenta may offer for sale pursuant to this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement from time to time, any or all of the common stock listed below. Accordingly, no estimate can be given as to the shares of common stock that Mr. Valenta will hold upon consummation of any such sales.

Applicable percentages are based on 22,013,299 shares of our common stock outstanding on January 9, 2012, adjusted as required by rules promulgated by the SEC.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC.

There are no material relationships between Ronald Valenta and us other than as disclosed herein and the documents we incorporate by reference.

	Common Stock	k Beneficially		Common Stock	Beneficially
	Own	ned	Shares of	Owned After C	Completion of
	Before the	Offering	Common	Offerir	ng (1)
	Number of		Stock Being	Number of	
Name	Shares	Percentage	Offered	Shares	Percentage
Ronald Valenta	4,387,667	19.6%	1,171,339	3,216,328	14.4%

(1) Assumes that Ronald Valenta sells all of the shares being offered.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The selling stockholder and any transferees, pledgees, donees, assignees, distributees or other successors in interest to the selling stockholder may, from time to time, sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of any or all of his shares of our common stock covered by this prospectus on the NASDAQ Global Market or any other stock exchange, market or trading facility on which the shares are traded or in private transactions. These dispositions will be at the fixed price of \$5.00 per share. The selling stockholder may use any one or more of the following methods when disposing of shares:

 \cdot ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;

 \cdot block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;

 \cdot purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;

 \cdot an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;

· privately negotiated transactions;

 \cdot settlement of short sales entered into after the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part;

 \cdot broker-dealers may agree with the selling stockholders to sell a specified number of such shares at the fixed price of \$5.00 per share;

 \cdot through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether through an options exchange or otherwise;

 \cdot a combination of any such methods of sale; or

 \cdot any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law (including underwritten transactions).

The selling stockholder may also sell shares under Rule 144 under the Securities Act, if available, rather than under this prospectus.

Broker-dealers, underwriters and agents engaged by the selling stockholder may arrange for other brokers dealers, underwriters or agents to participate in sales. Broker-dealers, underwriters or agents may receive commissions, discounts or concessions from the selling stockholder (or, if any broker-dealer acts as agent for the purchaser of shares, from the purchaser) in amounts to be negotiated, but, except as set forth in a supplement to this prospectus, in the case of an agency transaction not in excess of a customary brokerage commission in compliance with FINRA NASD Rule 2440; and in the case of a principal transaction a markup or markdown in compliance with NASD IM-2440.

In connection with the sale of the common stock or interests therein, the selling stockholder may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions, which may in turn engage in short sales of the common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The selling stockholder may also sell shares of the common

stock short and deliver these securities to close out his short positions, or loan or pledge the common stock to broker-dealers that in turn may sell these securities. The selling stockholder may also enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions or the creation of one or more derivative securities which require the delivery to such broker-dealer or other financial institution of shares offered by this prospectus, which shares such broker-dealer or other financial institution may resell pursuant to this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect such transaction).

The selling stockholder will be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with sales of the shares. Any broker-dealers, underwriters or agents that are involved in selling the shares may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. In such event, any commissions received by such broker-dealers, underwriters or agents and any profit on the resale of the shares purchased by them may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act.

We will pay the expenses incurred in connection with the registration of the shares, including all registration, listing and qualification fees, printer and accounting fees, our legal fees and up to \$50,000 of the selling stockholder's legal fees, and legal counsel to the selling stockholder. The selling stockholder will pay any underwriting fees, discounts, concessions, or brokerage commissions associated with the sale of his shares of common stock.

Because the selling stockholder will be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act, he will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act including Rule 172 thereunder. In addition, any securities covered by this prospectus which qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144 rather than under this prospectus.

To the extent required, the shares of our common stock to be sold, the names of the selling stockholder, the respective purchase prices and public offering prices, the names of any agents, dealers or underwriters, and any applicable commissions or discounts with respect to a particular offer will be set forth in an accompanying prospectus supplement or, if appropriate, a post-effective amendment to the registration statement that includes this prospectus. The resale shares will be sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers if required under applicable state securities laws. In addition, in certain states, the resale shares may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or upon compliance with an available exemption from the registration or qualification requirement.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the resale shares may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to the common stock for the applicable restricted period, as defined in Regulation M, prior to the commencement of the distribution. The selling stockholder will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of shares of our common stock by the selling stockholder or any other person. We will make copies of this prospectus available to the selling stockholder and have informed the selling stockholder of the need to deliver a copy of this prospectus to each purchaser at or prior to the time of the sale (including by compliance with Rule 172 under the Securities Act).

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should consider carefully all the risks described under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus and under similar headings in any prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus.

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

General

We are authorized to issue 100,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$.0001, and 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$.0001. As of the date of this prospectus, 22,013,299 shares of common stock are outstanding, held by 27 stockholders of record. 25,900 shares of Series A 12.5% Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding held by 16 stockholders of record and 200 shares of Series B 8% Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding held by two stockholders of record.

Units

Each unit consists of one share of GFN common stock and a three-year warrant to purchase 0.5 additional shares of GFN common stock at an exercise price of \$4.00 per share.

Common Stock

Common stockholders of record are entitled to one vote for each share held on all matters to be voted on by stockholders.

Pursuant to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, the Board of Directors must consist of no less than three members, the exact number of which is determined from time to time by the Board of Directors, divided into three classes designated Class A, Class B and Class C, respectively. The Board of Directors has presently fixed the number of directors at six. The term of the Class C Director will expire as of the annual meeting of stockholders in 2012, the terms of the Class A Directors will expire as of the annual meeting of stockholders in 2013 and the terms of the Class B Directors will expire at the annual meeting of stockholders in 2014. Upon expiration of the terms of the Directors of each class as set forth above, the terms of their successors in that class will continue until the end of their terms and until their successors are duly elected and qualify.

Our stockholders are entitled to receive ratable dividends when, as and if declared by the Board of Directors out of funds legally available therefor. In the event of a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the company after a business combination, our stockholders are entitled, subject to the rights of holders of preferred stock, if any, to share ratably in all assets remaining available for distribution to them after payment of liabilities and after provision is made for each class of stock, if any, having preference over the common stock. Our stockholders have no conversion, preemptive or other subscription rights. There are no sinking fund or redemption provisions applicable to the common stock.

Preferred Stock

Our certificate of incorporation authorizes the issuance of 1,000,000 shares of blank check preferred stock with such designation and our board of directors may determine its rights and preferences from time to time. No shares of preferred stock are being issued or registered in this offering. Accordingly, our board of directors is empowered,

without stockholder approval, to issue preferred stock with dividend, liquidation, conversion, voting or other rights that could adversely affect the voting power or other rights of the holders of common stock. We may issue some or all of the preferred stock to effect a business combination. In addition, the preferred stock could be utilized as a method of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control.

The Company is offering private placements of Series A 12.5% Cumulative Preferred Stock, liquidation preference of \$50 per share, or Series A Preferred Stock, and Series B 8% Cumulative Preferred Stock, liquidation value of \$1,000 per share, Series B Preferred Stock. The Series B Preferred Stock is offered primarily in connection with business combinations. As of December 31, 2011, the Company had issued 25,900 shares and 200 shares of Series A Preferred Stock and Series B Preferred Stock for total proceeds of \$1,295,000 and \$100,000, respectively.

The Series A Preferred Stock and Series B Preferred Stock, or collectively the Cumulative Preferred Stock, are not convertible into GFN common stock, have no voting rights, except as required by Delaware law, and are not redeemable prior to February 1, 2014; at which time it may be redeemed at any time, in whole or in part, at the Company's option. Holders of the Cumulative Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when declared by the Company's Board of Directors, annual dividends payable quarterly in arrears on the 31st day of January, July and October of each year and the 30th day of April of each year. In the event of any liquidation or winding up of the Company, the holders of the Cumulative Preferred Stock will have preference to holders of common stock; with the holders of the Series A Preferred Stock having preference over holders of the Series B Preferred Stock. The Company has agreed to register for public trading the Cumulative Preferred Stock no later than one year from issuance.

Warrants

Each warrant included in the units issued in the rights offering entitles the holder to purchase 0.5 shares of common stock at a price of \$4.00 per share, subject to adjustment as discussed below. The warrants will expire on May 14, 2013 at 5:00 p.m., Los Angeles time.

We have established the above conditions to our exercise of redemption rights to provide (i) warrant holders with adequate notice of exercise only after the then-prevailing common stock price is substantially above the warrant exercise price, and (ii) a sufficient differential between the then-prevailing common stock price and the warrant exercise price so there is a buffer to absorb the market reaction, if any, to our redemption of the warrants. If the foregoing conditions are satisfied and we call the warrants for redemption, each warrant holder shall then be entitled to exercise his or her warrant prior to the date scheduled for redemption; however, there can be no assurance that the price of the common stock will exceed the call trigger price or the warrant exercise price after the redemption call is made.

Since we may redeem the warrants only with the prior written consent of the representative and the representative may hold warrants subject to redemption, the representative may have a conflict of interest in determining whether or not to consent to such redemption. We cannot assure you that the representative will consent to such redemption if it is not in their best interest, even if it is in our best interest.

The warrants will be issued in registered form under a warrant agreement between Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, as warrant agent, and us. You should review a copy of the warrant agreement, which has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, for a complete description of the terms and conditions applicable to the warrants.

The exercise price and number of shares of common stock issuable on exercise of the warrants may be adjusted in certain circumstances including in the event of a stock dividend or our recapitalization, reorganization, merger or consolidation. However, the warrants will not be adjusted for issuances of common stock at a price below their respective exercise prices.

The warrants may be exercised upon surrender of the warrant certificate on or prior to the expiration date at the offices of the warrant agent, with the exercise form on the reverse side of the warrant certificate completed and executed as indicated, accompanied by full payment of the exercise price, by certified or official bank check payable to us, for the number of warrants being exercised. A warrant holder does not have the rights or privileges of a holder of common stock, including any voting rights, until the warrant holder exercises the warrants and receive shares of common stock.

No warrants will be exercisable unless a prospectus relating to common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants is current and the common stock has been registered, qualified or deemed to be exempt under the securities laws of the state of residence of the holder of the warrants. Under the terms of the warrant agreement, we have agreed to use our best efforts to maintain a current prospectus relating to common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants until the expiration of the warrants and to take such action as is necessary to qualify for sales in those states in which the warrants were initially offered by us, the common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants. However, we cannot assure you that we will be able to do so. The warrants may be deprived of any value and the market for the warrants may be limited if the prospectus relating to the common stock issuable upon the exercise of the warrants is not current or if the common stock is not qualified or exempt from qualification in the jurisdictions in which the warrant holders reside.

No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of the warrants. If, upon exercise of the warrants, a warrant holder would be entitled to receive a fractional interest in a share, we will round up to the nearest whole number the number of shares of common stock to be issued to the warrant holder.

Dividends

We have not paid any cash dividends on our common stock to date. The payment of cash dividends will be dependent upon our revenues and earnings, if any, capital requirements and general financial condition subsequent to completion of a business combination. The payment of any dividends will be within the discretion of our then board of directors. It is the present intention of our board of directors to retain all earnings, if any, for use in our business operations and, accordingly, our board does not anticipate declaring any dividends in the foreseeable future. Further, our ability to declare dividends may to limited by restrictive covenants if we incur any indebtedness.

Our Transfer Agent and Warrant Agent

The transfer agent for our securities and warrant agent for our warrants is Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, 17 Battery Place, New York, New York 10004.

NASDAQ Global Market Listing

The units are listed on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "GFNCL." The common stock and warrants are listed on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbols "GFN" and "GFNCZ," respectively.

Shares Eligible for Future Sale

As of January 9, 2012 we had 22,013,299 shares of common stock outstanding, 5,413,172 of which are restricted securities under Rule 144 in that they were issued in private transactions not involving a public offering. The remaining 16,600,127 shares are freely tradable, without further registration under the Securities Act, and consist of 7,815,099 shares sold in the IPO and through the exercise by the underwriters' representative of the over-allotment option, 3,669,286 shares issued in our May 2008 warrant tender offer and 828,495 shares whose restrictive legend has been removed pursuant to Rule 144. 6,205,550 of the outstanding shares were purchased by our affiliates within the meaning of Rule 144 under the Securities Act and are eligible for sale under Rule 144.

We are registering hereby 1,171,339 shares of common stock issued in connection with the acquisition of MOAC.

Rule 144

In general, under Rule 144 as currently in effect, a person who has beneficially owned restricted shares of our common stock for at least six months would be entitled to sell within any three-month period a number of shares that does not exceed the greater of either of the following:

1% of the number of shares of common stock then outstanding; and

if the common stock is listed on a national securities exchange or on The Nasdaq Stock Market, the average weekly trading volume of the common stock during the four calendar weeks preceding the filing of a notice on Form 144 with respect to the sale.

Sales under Rule 144 are also limited by manner of sale provisions and notice requirements and to the availability of current public information about us.

Rule 144(k)

Under Rule 144(k), a person who is not deemed to have been one of our affiliates at the time of or at any time during the three months preceding a sale, and who has beneficially owned the restricted shares proposed to be sold for at least two years including the holding period of any prior owner other than an affiliate, is entitled to sell his or her shares without complying with the manner of sale, public information, volume limitation or notice provisions of Rule 144.

SEC Position on Rule 144 Sales

The SEC has taken the position that promoters or affiliates of a blank check company and their transferees, both before and after a business combination, act as "underwriters" under the Securities Act when reselling the securities of a blank check company acquired prior to the consummation of its initial public offering. Accordingly, the SEC believes that those securities can be resold only through a registered offering and that Rule 144 would not be available for those resale transactions despite technical compliance with the requirements of Rule 144.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities offered in this prospectus is being passed upon for us by Christopher A. Wilson.

EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2011 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of Crowe Horwath LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Our Internet website is located at http://www.generalfinance.com. This reference to our Internet website does not constitute incorporation by reference in this report of the information contained on or hyperlinked from our Internet website and such information should not be considered part of this report.

We are required to file Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q with the SEC on a regular basis, and are required to disclose certain material events (e.g., changes in corporate control; acquisitions or dispositions of a significant amount of assets other than in the ordinary course of business and bankruptcy) in a current report on Form 8-K. The public may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. The SEC's Internet website is located at http://www.sec.gov.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3, which includes exhibits, schedules and amendments, under the Securities Act, with respect to this offering of our securities. Although this prospectus, which forms a part of the registration statement, contains all material information included in the registration statement, parts of the registration statement have been omitted as permitted by rules and regulations of the SEC. We refer you to the registration statement and its exhibits for further information about us, our securities and this offering. The registration statement and its exhibits, as well as our other reports filed with the SEC, can be inspected and copied at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-1004. The public may obtain information about the operation of the public reference room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, the SEC maintains a web site at http://www.sec.gov, which contains the Form S-3 and other reports, proxy and information statements and information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

Until , 2012, all dealers that effect transactions in these securities, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This is in addition to the dealers' obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as underwriters and with respect to their unsold allotments or subscriptions.

No dealer, salesperson or any other person is authorized to give any information or make any representations in connection with this offering other than those contained in this prospectus and, if given or made, the information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by us. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any security other than the securities offered by this prospectus, or an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities by anyone in any jurisdiction in which the offer or solicitation is not authorized or is unlawful.

INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" information in this prospectus that we have filed with it. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document already on file with the SEC. We incorporate by reference the following information or documents that we have filed with the SEC (excluding any document, or portion thereof, to the extent disclosure is furnished and not filed):

.

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, filed with the SEC on September 23, 2011;

the information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on October 20, 2011;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended September 30, 2011, filed with the SEC on November 14, 2011;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 6, 2011, January 14, 2011, January 21, 2011, February 1, 2011, February 11, 2011, February 23, 2011, March 7, 2011, March 23, 2011, April 11, 2011, May 3, 2011, May 12, 2011, May 18, 2011, May 19, 2011, June 3, 2011, August 19, 2011, September 7, 2011, September 13, 2011, September 16, 2011, September 20, 2011, September 25, 2011, November 1, 2011, November 10, 2011, December 2, 2011, December 6, 2011 and December 14, 2011; and

The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on July 11, 2011 and any further amendment or report filed hereafter for the purpose of updating such description.

All reports and other documents subsequently filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of this offering shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and to be part hereof from the date of filing of such reports and other documents. However, we are not incorporating by reference any information provided in these documents that is described in paragraph (d)(1), (d)(2), (d)(3) or (e)(5) of Item 407 of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC or furnished under applicable SEC rules rather than filed and exhibits furnished in connection with such items.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for the purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a later statement contained in this prospectus or in any other document incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes the earlier statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owners, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of the reports and documents that have been incorporated by reference into this prospectus, at no cost. Any such request may be made by writing us at the following address:

General Finance Corporation Attn: Corporate Secretary c/o General Finance Corporation

39 East Union Street Pasadena, CA 91103

GENERAL FINANCE CORPORATION

1,171,339 Shares of Common Stock

PROSPECTUS

, 2012

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 13. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

The estimated expenses payable by us in connection with the offering described in this registration statement (other than the underwriting discount and commissions) will be as follows:

SEC registration fee	\$ 672
NASD filing fee	0
Accounting fees and expenses	7,500
Printing and engraving expenses	2,500
Legal fees and expenses	1,000
NASDAQ Global Market filing fee	0
Miscellaneous	1,000
Total	\$ 12,672

Item 14. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Our certificate of incorporation provides that all directors, officers, employees and agents of the registrant shall be entitled to be indemnified by us to the fullest extent permitted by Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law concerning indemnification of officers, directors, employees and agents is set forth below.

"Section 145. Indemnification of officers, directors, employees and agents; insurance.

(a) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful.

(b) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably

incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

(c) To the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith.

(d) Any indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) of this section (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section. Such determination shall be made, with respect to a person who is a director or officer at the time of such determination, (1) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, or (2) by a committee of such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (4) by the stockholders.

(e) Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in this section. Such expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by former directors and officers or other employees and agents may be so paid upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the corporation deems appropriate.

(f) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, the other subsections of this section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

(g) A corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under this section.

(h) For purposes of this section, references to "the corporation" shall include, in addition to the resulting corporation, any constituent corporation (including any constituent of a constituent) absorbed in a consolidation or merger which, if its separate existence had continued, would have had power and authority to indemnify its directors, officers, and employees or agents, so that any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such constituent corporation, or is or was serving at the request of such constituent corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under this section with respect to the resulting or surviving corporation as such person would have with respect to such constituent corporation if its separate existence had continued.

(i) For purposes of this section, references to "other enterprises" shall include employee benefit plans; references to "fines" shall include any excise taxes assessed on a person with respect to any employee benefit plan; and references to "serving at the request of the corporation" shall include any service as a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation which imposes duties on, or involves services by, such director, officer, employee or agent with respect to an employee benefit plan, its participants or beneficiaries; and a person who acted in good faith and in a manner such

person reasonably believed to be in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of an employee benefit plan shall be deemed to have acted in a manner "not opposed to the best interests of the corporation" as referred to in this section.

(j) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this section shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

(k) The Court of Chancery is hereby vested with exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all actions for advancement of expenses or indemnification brought under this section or under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise. The Court of Chancery may summarily determine a corporation's obligation to advance expenses (including attorneys' fees)."

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to our directors, officers, and controlling persons pursuant to the foregoing provisions or otherwise, we have been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person in a successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, we will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to the court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

Paragraph B of Article Eighth of our certificate of incorporation provides:

"The Corporation, to the full extent permitted by Section 145 of the GCL, as amended from time to time, shall indemnify all persons whom it may indemnify pursuant thereto. Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending any civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative action, suit or proceeding for which such officer or director may be entitled to indemnification hereunder shall be paid by the Corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that he is not entitled to be indemnified by the Corporation as authorized hereby."

We have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our directors and officers that provide that we will indemnify the directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Item 15. Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities.

We are conducting a private placement of Series A 12.5% Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share and liquidation preference of \$50 per share ("Series A Preferred Stock"), in reliance upon the exemption from registration provided by Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Rule 506 promulgated thereunder pursuant to which it seeks to raise an aggregate amount of \$15 million (the "Offering"). As of December 31, 2011, total proceeds from the Offering were approximately \$1.3 million. Pursuant to the Certificate of Designation for the Series A Preferred Stock, each share of Series A Preferred Stock will pay cumulative cash distributions at a rate of 12.5% per annum, subject to declaration by the board of directors of the Company. The Series A Preferred Stock is not convertible into common stock.

On December 8, 2008 we sold 100 shares of Series 100 shares of Series B 8% cumulative Preferred Stock in connection with the acquisition by Pac-Van of Container Wholesalers in Salt Lake City, Utah. We issued and sold these shares without registration under the Securities Act pursuant to the exemption from registration contained in Section 4(2) of the Securities Act as transactions not involving any public offering. We paid no underwriting discounts or commissions with respect to this issuance and sale.

On October 1, 2008, we issued 4,000,000 shares of restricted common stock in connection with the acquisition of Mobile Office Acquisition Corp. We issued and sold these shares without registration under the Securities Act pursuant to the exemption from registration contained in Section 4(2) of the Securities Act as transactions not involving any public offering. We paid no underwriting discounts or commissions with respect to this issuance and sale.

On October 17, 2005, we issued and sold 1,875,000 shares of common stock to Ronald F. Valenta for \$0.133 per share or a total of \$250,000. We issued and sold these shares without registration under the Securities Act pursuant to

the exemption from registration contained in Section 4(2) of the Securities Act as transactions not involving any public offering. We paid no underwriting discounts or commissions with respect to this issuance and sale.

On October 20, 2005, Mr. Valenta sold 356,250 shares of Common Stock to John O. Johnson, our former Executive Vice President, for \$0.133 per share or an aggregate of \$47,500. On November 15, 2005, Mr. Valenta transferred, without consideration, 22,500 shares to each of David M. Connell, Lawrence Glascott, Manuel Marrero and James B. Roszak, directors of the company, and 18,750 shares to Marc Perez, our controller. The transfer of these shares by Mr. Valenta was exempt from registration pursuant to Section 4(1) of the Securities Act as transaction by a person other than by an issuer, underwriter or dealer. In this respect, the shares were transferred without any general solicitation or general advertising and each purchaser is a director or officer of the registrant who agreed to appropriate limitations on resale.

The share amounts described above give effect to the 3-for-4 reverse split of Registrant's common stock that occurred in March 2006.

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We issued and sold 583,333 warrants to Ronald F. Valenta and John O. Johnson immediately prior to the closing of the offering pursuant to this registration statement at a price of \$1.20 per warrant for an aggregate purchase price of \$700,000. These warrants are identical to the warrants being issued pursuant to the registration statement. The issuance and sale of these warrants will be made without registration under the Securities Act pursuant to the exemption from registration contained in Section 4(2) of the Securities Act as transactions not involving any public offering. We will use no general solicitation or general advertising in connection with the issuance and sale of these warrants, and the purchasers are affiliates of the company and have agreed to appropriate restrictions on resale of the warrants and the underlying shares. We will pay no underwriting discounts or commissions with respect to the issuance and sale of these warrants.

Item 16. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.

(a) The following exhibits are filed as part of this Registration Statement:

Exhibit No.	Description
5.1	Legal Opinion of Christopher A. Wilson*
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (Crowe Horwath LLP)*
23.2	Consent of Christopher A. Wilson (contained in Exhibit 5.1)*
24	Power of Attorney *

* Filed herewith.

(b) Financial Statement Schedules

All supplemental schedules have been omitted since the required information is not present in amounts sufficient to require submission of the schedule, or because the required information is included in the consolidated financials statements or notes thereto.

Item 17. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the

maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement.

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) If the registrant is relying on Rule 430B (§ 230.430B of this chapter):

(A) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or(x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date; or

(ii) If the registrant is subject to Rule 430C, each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than registration statements relying on Rule 430B or other than prospectuses filed in reliance on Rule 430A, shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or first use.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned

registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

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(i)	Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
(ii)	Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;
(iii)	The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and
(iv)	Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(b) The undersigned hereby undertakes to provide to the underwriter at the closing specified in the underwriting agreements, certificates in such denominations and registered in such names as required by the underwriter to permit prompt delivery to each purchaser.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(d) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that:

(1) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(2) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant has duly caused this Form S-3 registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Pasadena, State of California, on the 10th day of January, 2012.

GENERAL FINANCE CORPORATION

By:

/s/ Charles E. Barrantes

Charles E. Barrantes Chief Financial Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each of the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Ronald F. Valenta, Charles E. Barrantes and Christopher A. Wilson, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, each with full power of substitution and re-substitution, for the undersigned and on the undersigned's behalf in any and all capacities (including the undersigned's capacity as a director of General Finance Corporation) to sign, execute and file this registration statement and any registration statement that is to become effective upon filing pursuant to Rule 462 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, relating to any offering of securities in connection with this registration statement and any or all amendments (including, without limitation, post-effective amendments) to any such registration statements, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and any and all documents required to be filed with respect therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission or any regulatory authority, granting unto such attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith and about the premises in order to effectuate the same as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorneys-in-fact and agents, or his or her substitute or substitutes, have done, may lawfully do or may cause to be done.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Position	Date
Chief Executive	January 10, 2012
Officer and	Juniuary 10, 2012
Director	
(Principal	
Executive Officer)	
Executive Vice	January 10, 2012
President and Chief	5 ,
Financial Officer	
	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer) Executive Vice President and Chief

Charles E. Barrantes	(Principal Accounting Officer)	
*	Director	January 10, 2012
James B. Roszak		
II-7		

* Lawrence Glascott	Chairman of the Board of Directors	January 10, 2012
*	Director	January 10, 2012
Manuel Marrero		
*	Director	January 10, 2012
David M. Connell		
*	Director	January 10, 2012
Susan Harris		
* By Charles E. Barrantes Attorney-in-Fact		