

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORP  
Form DEF 14A  
April 25, 2014

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

**SCHEDULE 14A**

(RULE 14a-101)

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the**  
**Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

**BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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**BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**

**2525 EAST EL SEGUNDO BOULEVARD**

**EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245**

**May 1, 2014**

Dear Fellow Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation (the Company), to be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 5250 West El Segundo Boulevard, Hawthorne, California 90250 on June 5, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. local time and at any adjournments or postponements thereof (the Annual Meeting).

At the Annual Meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote upon the following matters:

1. The election of two Class C directors to the Company's Board of Directors, each to hold office until the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders (and until each such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified);
2. An advisory vote on executive compensation;
3. The ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP to serve as the Company's independent auditors for fiscal 2014; and
4. The transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

Accompanying this letter is the formal Notice of Annual Meeting, Proxy Statement, Proxy Card relating to the meeting and the Company's 2013 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Your vote is very important regardless of how many shares you own. We hope you can attend the annual meeting in person. However, whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, we request that you submit your proxy through one of the methods described in the enclosed Proxy Statement. If you attend the annual meeting, you may vote in person if you wish, even though you may have previously returned your Proxy Card.

Sincerely,

Steven G. Miller

Chairman of the Board, President

and Chief Executive Officer

**BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**

**2525 EAST EL SEGUNDO BOULEVARD**

**EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**TO BE HELD ON JUNE 5, 2014**

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the Company), will be held on June 5, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. local time, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 5250 West El Segundo Boulevard, Hawthorne, California 90250 and at any adjournments or postponements thereof (the Annual Meeting). At the Annual Meeting, the Company's stockholders will be asked to consider and vote upon:

1. The election of two Class C directors to the Company's Board of Directors, each to hold office until the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders (and until each such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified);
2. An advisory vote on executive compensation;
3. The ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP to serve as the Company's independent auditors for fiscal 2014; and
4. The transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

Only stockholders of record of the Company's common stock at the close of business on April 22, 2014 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof. A list of stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be available for inspection at the principal executive offices of the Company, 2525 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California 90245 for at least ten days prior to the meeting and will also be available for inspection at the meeting.

**YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING IN PERSON, TO ENSURE THAT YOUR SHARES ARE REPRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, WE URGE YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR PROXY AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE EITHER (I) THROUGH THE INTERNET, (II) BY TELEPHONE OR (III) BY MARKING, SIGNING AND DATING THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD AND RETURNING IT IN THE POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE PROVIDED.**

**If you plan to attend:**

*Please note that admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Each stockholder may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport, and proof of ownership of the Company's common stock as of the record date, such as the enclosed Proxy or a brokerage statement reflecting stock ownership as of the record date.*

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BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Gary S. Meade

Secretary

El Segundo, California

May 1, 2014

**BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**

**2525 EAST EL SEGUNDO BOULEVARD**

**EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245**

**PROXY STATEMENT RELATING TO  
ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**To Be Held On June 5, 2014**

This Proxy Statement is being furnished to the stockholders of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Company's Board of Directors for use at the Annual Meeting of the Company's stockholders to be held on June 5, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. local time at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 5250 West El Segundo Boulevard, Hawthorne, California 90250, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof (the "Annual Meeting").

At the Annual Meeting, holders of the Company's common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, will be asked to vote upon: (i) the election of two Class C directors to the Company's Board of Directors, each to hold office until the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders (and until each such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified); (ii) an advisory vote on executive compensation; (iii) the ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP to serve as the Company's independent auditors for fiscal 2014; and (iv) any other business that properly comes before the Annual Meeting.

This Proxy Statement and the accompanying Proxy Card are first being mailed to the Company's stockholders on or about May 1, 2014. The address of the principal executive offices of the Company is 2525 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California 90245.

**Important Notice Regarding Availability of Proxy Materials for the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be Held on June 5, 2014:**

**The Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement, and the Annual Report to Shareholders, are available to stockholders at <http://www.edocumentview.com/BGFV>.**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**Record Date; Outstanding Shares; Quorum**

Only holders of record of the Company's common stock at the close of business on April 22, 2014 (the "Record Date") will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. As of the close of business on the Record Date, there were 22,400,122 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote, held of record by 385 stockholders. A majority, or 11,200,062 of these shares, present in person or represented by proxy, will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting. Each of the Company's stockholders is entitled to one vote, in person or by proxy, for each share of common stock standing in such stockholder's name on the books of the Company as of the Record Date on any matter submitted to the stockholders.

**Methods of Voting; Revocability**

***By Internet or Telephone***

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If you hold Company shares directly in your name as a stockholder of record, you may vote electronically via the Internet at [www.envisionreports.com/BGFV](http://www.envisionreports.com/BGFV), or by telephone by calling 1-800-652-VOTE (8683). Votes submitted via the Internet or by telephone must be received by 1:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on June 5, 2014.

If you hold Company shares in street name through a broker or other nominee, you may vote electronically via the Internet or by telephone by following the voting instructions on the enclosed Proxy Card.

***By Mail***

If you hold Company shares directly in your name as a stockholder of record, you may vote by mail by marking, signing and dating your Proxy Card and returning it using the pre-paid return envelope provided. The Company must receive your Proxy Card no later than the close of business on June 4, 2014.

If you hold Company shares in street name through a broker or other nominee, you may vote by mail by marking, signing and dating your Proxy Card and returning it using the pre-paid return envelope provided by the deadline shown on your Proxy Card.

***In Person***

If you hold Company shares directly in your name as a stockholder of record, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting. Stockholders of record also may be represented by another person at the Annual Meeting by executing a proper proxy designating that person.

If you hold Company shares in street name through a broker or other nominee, you must obtain a legal proxy from that institution and present it to the inspector of elections with your ballot to be able to vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

When a stockholder submits a proxy via the Internet or by telephone, his or her proxy is recorded immediately. The Company encourages its stockholders to submit their proxies using these methods whenever possible. If you submit a proxy via the Internet or by telephone, please do not return your Proxy Card by mail. If you attend the Annual Meeting, you may also submit your vote in person. Any votes that you previously submitted whether via the Internet, by telephone or by mail will be superseded by the vote that you cast at the Annual Meeting.

**Your vote is important. Accordingly, please submit your proxy via the Internet, by telephone or by mail, whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting in person.**

Stockholders are requested to submit their proxies through one of the above methods. All properly submitted proxies will be voted in accordance with the instructions indicated. If you are a registered holder and you submit your proxy but do not specify how the shares represented thereby are to be voted, your shares will be voted (i) FOR the election of each director nominee listed on the Proxy Card, (ii) FOR the approval of Proposal 2 regarding the compensation of our Named Executive Officers, and (iii) FOR the ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as independent auditors for fiscal 2014. The Company's Board of Directors does not presently intend to bring any business before the Annual Meeting other than that referred to in this Proxy Statement and specified in the Notice of the Annual Meeting. By signing the Proxy Cards, stockholders confer discretionary authority on the proxies (who are persons designated by the Board of Directors) to vote all shares covered by the Proxy Cards in their discretion on any other matter that may properly come before the Annual Meeting, including any motion made for adjournment of the Annual Meeting.

***Revocability of Proxies; Changing Your Vote***

Any stockholder who has given a proxy may revoke it at any time before it is exercised at the Annual Meeting by (i) delivering a written revocation notice to the Secretary of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation, 2525 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California 90245, (ii) submitting a valid, timely, later-dated proxy by mail, telephone or Internet or (iii) attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person (although attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy). Any notice of revocation sent to the Company must include the stockholder's name and be received by the Company prior to the close of business on June 4, 2014.

**Votes Required**

For Proposal 1, elections of directors are determined by a plurality of shares of common stock represented in person or by proxy and voting at the Annual Meeting.

For Proposal 2, our stockholders will have an advisory vote on executive compensation as described in this Proxy Statement (commonly referred to as Say-on-Pay). Because the vote is advisory, it will not be binding



upon our Board of Directors. However, the Board of Directors and the Compensation Committee will consider the result of the vote when making future decisions regarding our executive compensation policies and practices. The affirmative nonbinding advisory vote of a majority of the votes cast, affirmatively or negatively, with respect to Proposal 2 at the Annual Meeting will be the requisite vote to adopt the resolution and approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers as such compensation is disclosed in this Proxy Statement.

For Proposal 3, affirmative votes representing a majority of the votes cast, affirmatively or negatively, with respect to Proposal 3 at the Annual Meeting will be required to ratify the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Company's independent auditors for its 2014 fiscal year.

**Broker Non-Votes; Withheld Votes; Abstentions**

The term broker non-vote refers to shares held by a brokerage firm or other nominee (for the benefit of its client) that are represented at the meeting, but with respect to which such broker or nominee is not instructed to vote on a particular proposal and does not have discretionary authority to vote on that proposal. The election of directors and the advisory vote on executive compensation are not matters on which a broker or other nominee has discretionary authority to vote, and therefore there may be broker non-votes on Proposals 1 and 2. The ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Company's independent auditors for fiscal 2014 is a matter considered routine under applicable rules, and, accordingly, we do not expect to receive broker non-votes with respect to Proposal 3.

If an executed proxy is returned by a broker holding shares in street name that indicates that the broker does not have discretionary authority as to certain shares to vote on one or more matters, such shares will be considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum on all matters, but will not be considered to be votes cast with respect to such matters as to which the broker does not have discretionary authority.

With respect to the election of directors, a stockholder may withhold such stockholder's vote. In addition, a stockholder may vote to abstain with respect to Proposals 2 and/or 3 or on any other proposals which may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

Because Proposal 1 (election of directors) is to be determined by a plurality of votes represented in person or by proxy and voting at the Annual Meeting, broker non-votes and withheld votes will have no effect on the outcome of this proposal.

Because Proposals 2 and 3 require affirmative votes of the majority of the votes cast, affirmatively or negatively, on such proposals at the Annual Meeting, broker non-votes and abstentions with respect to each such proposal will have no effect on the outcome of those votes.

**Solicitation of Proxies and Expenses**

This proxy solicitation is made by the Company, and the Company will bear the cost of the solicitation of proxies from its stockholders. The directors, officers and employees of the Company may solicit proxies by mail, telephone, letter, facsimile, via the Internet or in person. Following the original mailing of the proxies and other soliciting materials, the Company will request that brokers, custodians, nominees and other record holders forward copies of the Proxy Statement and other soliciting materials to persons for whom they hold shares of common stock and request authority for the exercise of proxies. In such cases, the Company will reimburse such record holders for their reasonable expenses.

**PROPOSAL 1**

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

**(Item No. 1 on Proxy Card)**

**General**

The Board of Directors consists of three classes, consisting of Class A directors, Class B directors and Class C directors. The current terms of office of the Class A directors, Class B directors and Class C directors expire in the year 2015 (Class A), the year 2016 (Class B) and the year 2014 (Class C). The terms of the Class C directors elected at the Annual Meeting will expire in 2017. Directors are elected to three-year terms. Each director holds office until such director's successor is duly elected and qualified. At each annual meeting of stockholders, directors elected to succeed those directors whose terms then expire will be elected for a term of office expiring at the third succeeding annual meeting of stockholders of the Company after their election, with each director to hold office until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and qualified.

Our Class C consists of two directors: Ms. Jennifer H. Dunbar and Mr. Steven G. Miller, both of whom are nominees for election to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. Each Class C director elected will hold office until the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders (and until such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified). All of the nominees currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Company.

Each proxy received will be voted for the election of the nominees named below, unless the stockholder signing such proxy withholds authority to vote for one or more of these nominees in the manner described in the proxy. Although it is not contemplated that any nominee named below will decline or be unable to serve as a director, in the event any nominee declines or is unable to serve as a director, the proxies will be voted by the proxy holders as directed by the Board of Directors. Broker non-votes in the election of directors will not be counted as voting at the meeting and therefore will not have an effect on the election of the nominees listed below. Withheld votes will also have no effect on the election of the nominees.

**Required Vote**

The two nominees receiving the highest number of votes from holders of shares of common stock represented and voting at the Annual Meeting will be elected to the Board of Directors.

**Recommendation of the Board of Directors**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES.**

Except as set forth below, there are no family relationships between any director, nominee or executive officer and any other director, nominee or executive officer of the Company. Except as disclosed under Executive and Director Compensation and Related Matters Employment Agreements and Change in Control Provisions, there are no arrangements or understandings between any director, nominee or executive officer and any other person pursuant to which such person has been or will be selected as a director and/or executive officer of the Company (other than arrangements or understandings with any such director, nominee and/or executive officer acting in such person's capacity as such). However, Stadium Capital Management, LLC ( Stadium Capital ), requested that the Company consider Mr. DeMarco for appointment to the Board. Stadium Capital's affiliated funds have been shareholders of the Company since 2006 and, taken together, are the Company's largest current shareholder.

**The Board of Directors**

The following table lists the current members of the Board, their age, and information regarding their class and committee membership:

| Name                          | Age | Class | Expiration of Current Term |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------|----------------------------|
| Jennifer H. Dunbar* (a)(b)(c) | 51  | C     | 2014                       |
| Steven G. Miller*             | 62  | C     | 2014                       |
| G. Michael Brown              | 61  | A     | 2015                       |
| Dominic P. DeMarco (b)        | 43  | A     | 2015                       |
| David R. Jessick (a)(c)       | 60  | A     | 2015                       |
| Sandra N. Bane (a)(b)(c)      | 61  | B     | 2016                       |
| Van B. Honeycutt (c)          | 69  | B     | 2016                       |

\* Nominee for Reelection at the Annual Meeting

(a) Member of the Audit Committee

(b) Member of the Compensation Committee

(c) Member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

**Directors Whose Terms Will Expire in 2014 and are Nominees for Reelection at the Annual Meeting (Class C Directors)**

*Jennifer H. Dunbar* has served as a director since February 2004. Since March 2005, Ms. Dunbar has served as Co-Founder and Managing Director of Dunbar Partners, LLC, an investment and advisory services firm. From 1994 to 1998, Ms. Dunbar was a partner with Leonard Green & Partners, L.P., a private equity firm, which she joined in 1989. Ms. Dunbar began her career as a financial analyst in the Mergers and Acquisitions Department of Morgan Stanley in 1985. Ms. Dunbar is also a member of the board of directors of PS Business Parks, Inc., a real estate investment trust, where she serves on the audit and compensation committees. She was formerly a member of the board of directors of 99 Cents Only Stores from 2007 to 2008. Age: 51.

Ms. Dunbar has extensive financial expertise, knowledge of investment banking and experience in private equity investments and mergers and acquisitions, which is essential to our Board of Directors. Her experience as a member of several public company boards, including five companies in the retail sector, and as a member of a number of public company board committees, including six audit committees, is also extremely valuable to our Board.

*Steven G. Miller* has served as Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President since 2002, 2000 and 1992, respectively. Steven G. Miller has also served as a director since 1992. In addition, Steven G. Miller served as Chief Operating Officer from 1992 to 2000 and as Executive Vice President, Administration from 1988 to 1992. Age: 62.

Mr. Miller has over forty years of experience at almost every level of the Company, which makes him well positioned to provide essential insight from an inside perspective of the day-to-day operations of the Company. His comprehensive knowledge of the Company's business and the retail sporting goods industry are invaluable to our Board of Directors.

**Directors Whose Terms Will Expire in 2015 (Class A Directors)**

*G. Michael Brown* has served as a director since 2002. Mr. Brown has been a senior litigation partner with the law firm Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP since 2001. Prior to that, Mr. Brown was a partner at the law firm Berger, Kahn, Shafton, Moss, Figler, Simon & Gladstone from 1996 to 2001. Mr. Brown also served as Vice President of Legal Affairs for Thrifty Corporation, a retail drug store company which was the parent company of Big 5 Sporting Goods until 1992. Age: 61.

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Mr. Brown has over thirty years of legal experience, including expertise in litigation and labor and employment matters. His legal practice includes preventative counseling and assisting in the formulation of human resource policies and procedures for a number of publicly traded companies in the western United States.

Mr. Brown's experience with the legal and operational issues of publicly traded companies, including over twenty years of involvement in such issues for Big 5 Sporting Goods, is extremely valuable to the Company's Board of Directors.

*Dominic P. DeMarco* has served as a director since October 2011. Mr. DeMarco currently serves as Managing Director, Co-Chief Investment Officer and Chief Compliance Officer for Stadium Capital Management, LLC (Stadium Capital), an investment advisory firm. Mr. DeMarco joined Stadium Capital in 1999 as an Associate. Prior to that, he was an Associate at Goldman Sachs Group, where he evaluated corporate, high yield and mortgage-backed debt, as well as derivatives for large institutional investors. Also at Goldman, Mr. DeMarco assisted in the structuring of corporate debt and derivative transactions on behalf of Canadian corporate and government entities. Age: 43.

Mr. DeMarco has extensive financial expertise and knowledge of investment banking and corporate finance, including capital allocation, which is of substantial value to our Board of Directors. In addition, Mr. DeMarco adds a unique element to our Board of Directors as an officer of our largest institutional shareholder, allowing the Board to receive ongoing feedback from the perspective of a major outside shareholder, but with a more intimate and ongoing knowledge of the Company's operations.

David R. Jessick has served as a director since 2006. Mr. Jessick served as consultant to the chief executive and senior financial staff at Rite Aid Corp. from June 2002 to February 2005. Mr. Jessick served as Rite Aid's Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer from 1999 to 2002. Prior to joining Rite Aid, from 1997 to 1999, Mr. Jessick was the Chief Financial Officer for Fred Meyer, Inc., where he also served as Executive Vice President, Finance and Investor Relations. From 1979 to 1996, he held various financial positions, including Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, with Thrifty Payless, Inc. and Payless Drugstores Northwest, Inc. Mr. Jessick began his career as a certified public accountant with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. Mr. Jessick is also a member of the board of directors of DFC Global Corp., a financial services company, and Rite Aid Corp., a retail drug store company, and serves on the audit committee of both companies. Age: 60.

Mr. Jessick has more than thirty years of experience as a corporate financial executive and chief financial officer of publicly traded companies in the retail sector. He has been a member of several public company boards, including three companies in the retail sector, served as chairman of the board of a publicly traded company in the retail sector, and served on a number of public company board committees, including three audit committees. Mr. Jessick's extensive experience with the financial and operational issues of publicly traded companies, especially those in the retail sector, is invaluable to our Board of Directors.

#### **Directors Whose Terms Will Expire in 2016 (Class B Directors)**

*Sandra N. Bane* has served as a director since 2002. Ms. Bane was an audit partner with KPMG LLP from 1985 until her retirement in 1998 after 23 years as an accountant in the audit practice of the firm. While at KPMG, Ms. Bane headed the Western region's Merchandising practice for the firm, helped establish the Employee Benefits audit specialist program and was partner in charge of the Western region's Human Resource department for two years. Ms. Bane is also a member of the board of directors of AGL Resources Inc., an energy services holding company, where she serves on the audit and compensation committee, and Transamerica Asset Management Group, a mutual fund company, where she serves on the audit committee. She was formerly a director of PETCO Animal Supplies, Inc. from 2004 to 2006. Additionally, Ms. Bane serves as a member of the board for several nonprofit institutions in her community. She is also a member of the AICPA and the California Society of Certified Public Accountants. Age: 61.

Ms. Bane brings many years of experience as an audit partner with KPMG with extensive financial accounting knowledge that is critical to our Board of Directors. Ms. Bane's experience with accounting principles, financial reporting rules and regulations, evaluating financial results and generally overseeing the financial reporting process of large public companies from an independent auditor's perspective and as a board member and audit committee member of other public companies makes her an invaluable asset to our Board of Directors.

*Van B. Honeycutt* has served as a director since 2013. Mr. Honeycutt is the former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), a leading global provider of technology-enabled business solutions and services. He joined CSC in 1975, serving in a variety of managerial and executive positions, including Vice President and General Manager of CSC's Business Services Division, President of CSC Credit Services, Corporate Vice President and President of CSC's Industry Services Group, and President and Chief Operating Officer of CSC. He was named Chief Executive Officer in 1995 and Chairman in 1997, and served in those positions until his retirement in 2007. Mr. Honeycutt also served on the board of directors of Beckman Coulter, Inc. from 1998 until 2011, and had previously served on the boards of Tenet Healthcare Corporation and FHP International Corporation. In addition, Mr. Honeycutt was appointed by the President of the United States to the National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee in 1995 and served on the committee for ten years and as chairman for two years. Age: 69.

Mr. Honeycutt has extensive executive, financial and board experience, including service as Chairman and CEO of a leading publicly-traded technology company and membership on the boards of other public companies. He brings extensive financial, operational and corporate governance knowledge to our Board of Directors, as well as strategic expertise and skills from the technology industry to help the Company use technology to improve operational efficiency.

#### **Board Meetings, Board Committees and Board Structure**

The Board of Directors of the Company held five meetings during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013 and acted by unanimous written consent on two occasions. During the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013, each incumbent director of the Company attended at least 75% of the aggregate of (i) the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors, and (ii) the total number of meetings of the committees on which such director served. Due to a lack of in-person stockholder attendance at the Company's annual meetings, the Board no longer has a policy regarding attendance at the annual meeting of stockholders by directors or nominees. Steven G. Miller and G. Michael Brown attended the Company's 2013 annual meeting of stockholders.

Each director holds office until such director's resignation or until a successor is duly elected and qualified. It is the policy of the Board of Directors that a majority of the Board of Directors shall be independent as that term is defined in Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(a)(2) of the Nasdaq Stock Market's listing standards. The Board of Directors has determined that Sandra N. Bane, G. Michael Brown, Dominic P. DeMarco, Jennifer H. Dunbar, Van B. Honeycutt and David R. Jessick, each of whom is a current member of the Board of Directors, are independent.

#### ***Executive Sessions of Independent Directors***

To promote open discussion among the independent directors, the independent directors meet in executive session as deemed necessary and at least two times per year, either before or after regularly-scheduled board meetings. The Chair of the Audit Committee presides at these executive sessions. Any independent director may request that an executive session of the independent members of the Board of Directors be scheduled. Following such meetings, the Chair of the Audit Committee (or another designated director) will discuss with the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, to the extent appropriate, matters emanating from the executive sessions. The independent directors met in executive session three times during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013.

#### ***Audit Committee***

The Board of Directors has a standing Audit Committee, separately-designated and established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), which currently consists of Sandra N. Bane, Jennifer H. Dunbar and David R. Jessick. The Audit Committee has been chaired by Mr. Jessick since April 2008. The Board of Directors has determined that each of the members of the Audit Committee (i) is financially literate (including the ability to read and understand financial statements) and independent (as that term is defined in Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(a)(2) of the Nasdaq Stock Market's listing standards), (ii) meets the additional audit committee independence requirements set forth in Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(c)(2), and (iii) qualifies as an audit committee financial expert as defined in the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

On April 25, 2013, the Board of Directors adopted an amended and restated written charter for the Audit Committee. Among other things, the functions of the Audit Committee are to:

be directly responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the work of any registered public accounting firm engaged by the Company (including resolution of disagreements between management and the auditor regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Company;

pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services to be performed for the Company by its registered public accounting firm in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A(i) of the Exchange Act;

establish procedures for (a) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and (b) the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters;

review and discuss with the Company's management and independent auditors the Company's financial disclosures, including its audited annual and unaudited quarterly financial statements, as well as the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's internal accounting controls;

discuss with the Company's management and independent auditors any significant changes to the Company's accounting principles;

review the independence and performance of the Company's independent auditors, as well as the independent auditors' internal quality control procedures; and

review from time to time and make recommendations with respect to the Company's policies relating to management conduct and oversee procedures and practices to ensure compliance with such policies.

The charter for the Audit Committee can be found on the Company's website at [www.big5sportinggoods.com](http://www.big5sportinggoods.com). To locate the charter, go to the Investor Relations section of the website and click on Corporate Governance.

The Audit Committee held four meetings during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013.

#### ***Compensation Committee***

The Board of Directors has a standing Compensation Committee, which is chaired by Sandra N. Bane, and currently consists of Ms. Bane, Dominic P. DeMarco and Jennifer H. Dunbar. G. Michael Brown served on the Compensation Committee as its Chair through April 25, 2013, and David R. Jessick served as a member of the Committee through July 25, 2013. Each of the members of the Compensation Committee is independent within the meaning of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(a)(2) of the Nasdaq Stock Market's listing standards and meets the additional requirements for compensation committee members set forth in Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(d)(2). Ms. Bane, Mr. DeMarco and Ms. Dunbar each is a non-employee director within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 of the Exchange Act, and an outside director within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Mr. Brown is a partner at the law firm of Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP, which from time to time is retained by the Company to handle various litigation matters, and for this reason is not a non-employee director or an outside director. Among other things, the function of the Compensation Committee is to review and determine the compensation and benefits of the Company's executive officers and to administer the Company's Amended and Restated 2007 Equity and Performance Incentive Plan (the 2007 Plan). Grants of stock options and restricted stock under the 2007 Plan to, and compensation for, executive officers have been approved by Ms. Bane, Mr. DeMarco and Ms. Dunbar (and by Mr. Jessick during the period in which he served on the Compensation Committee), with Mr. Brown either recusing himself or abstaining with respect to grants made during the period in which he served on the Committee. The Compensation Committee held three meetings during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013.

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The Compensation Committee may, to the extent permitted by applicable laws and regulations, form and delegate any of its responsibilities to a subcommittee so long as such subcommittee consists of at least two members of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee has not formed any such



subcommittees to date. In carrying out its purposes and responsibilities, the Compensation Committee has authority to retain outside counsel or other experts or consultants, as it deems appropriate. The Compensation Committee has not historically used outside consultants in making compensation determinations, other than in designing the 2007 Plan. The Compensation Committee periodically receives and considers, to the extent it considers appropriate, recommendations from the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Steven G. Miller, in connection with its compensation decisions.

The charter for the Compensation Committee can be found on the Company's website at [www.big5sportinggoods.com](http://www.big5sportinggoods.com). To locate the charter, go to the Investor Relations section of the website and click on Corporate Governance.

#### ***Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee***

The Board of Directors has a standing Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, which is chaired by Jennifer H. Dunbar and currently consists of Ms. Dunbar, Sandra N. Bane, Van B. Honeycutt and David R. Jessick. Each of the members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is independent as that term is defined in audit committee independence requirements set forth in Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(c)(2) of the Nasdaq Stock Market's listing standards. Among other things, the function of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is to (i) identify, screen, review and recommend to the Board of Directors individuals qualified to be nominated for election to the Board and to fill vacancies or newly created positions on the Board, consistent with criteria approved by the Board, (ii) recommend to the Board the directors to serve on each Board committee, (iii) assess and, as necessary, develop and recommend to the Board corporate governance policies for the Company, and (iv) oversee the evaluation of the Board. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee held four meetings during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013 and acted by unanimous written consent on one occasion.

#### ***Director Qualifications and Nominations Process***

It is the policy of the Board of Directors that, in addition to being approved by a majority of the Board of Directors, each nominee must first be recommended by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

The policy of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is to recommend and encourage the selection of directors who have achieved success in their personal fields and who demonstrate integrity and high personal and professional ethics, sound business judgment and willingness to devote the requisite time to their duties as director, and who will contribute to the overall corporate goals of the Company. Candidates are evaluated and selected based on their individual merit, as well as in the context of the needs of the Board of Directors as a whole. In evaluating the suitability of individual candidates for election or re-election to the Board of Directors, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors take into account many factors, including understanding of the retail sporting goods industry, sales and marketing, finance and other elements relevant to the Company's business, educational and professional background, age, and past performance as a director. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors evaluate each individual in the context of the composition and needs of the Board of Directors as a whole, including the independence requirements imposed by the Nasdaq Stock Market and the Securities and Exchange Commission, with the objective of recommending a group that can best perpetuate and build on the success of the business and represent stockholder interests. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee strives to compose the Board of Directors to be a collection of individuals with a variety of complementary skills who, as a group, possess the appropriate skills and experience to oversee the Company's business. Accordingly, although diversity may be a consideration in the nominations process, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors do not have a formal policy with regard to the consideration of diversity in identifying director nominees. In determining whether to recommend a director for re-election, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors also consider the director's past attendance at, and participation in, meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees and contributions to its activities. In the event of a potential or actual vacancy, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors will use the Board's network of contacts to identify potential candidates, but may also engage, if they deem appropriate, a professional search firm.

The charter for the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee can be found on the Company's website at [www.big5sportinggoods.com](http://www.big5sportinggoods.com). To locate the charter, go to the Investor Relations section of the website and click on Corporate Governance.

Stockholders who have beneficially owned more than five percent of the Company's then-outstanding shares of common stock for a period of at least one year as of the date of making the proposal may propose candidates for consideration by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors by submitting the names and supporting information to: Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation, Attention: Secretary, 2525 East El Segundo Blvd, El Segundo, CA 90245-4632. A stockholder recommendation for nomination must be submitted in accordance with the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws and must contain the following information about the proposed nominee, as well as documentary support that the stockholder satisfies the requisite stock ownership threshold and holding period: name, age, business and residence addresses, principal occupation or employment, the number of shares of the Company's common stock held by the nominee, a resume of his or her business and educational background, the information that would be required under the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules in a proxy statement soliciting proxies for the election of such nominee as a director, and a signed consent of the nominee to serve as a director, if nominated and elected. Neither the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee nor the Board of Directors intends to alter the manner in which it evaluates candidates, including the criteria set forth above, based on whether the candidate was recommended by a stockholder.

### ***Board Leadership Structure***

Steven G. Miller serves as both the Chief Executive Officer and the Chairman of the Board. Given Mr. Miller's long standing association with the Company, and his extensive knowledge of and experience with the retail sporting goods industry, the Board of Directors believes that Mr. Miller's service as both Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer is in the best interest of the Company and its stockholders. The Board believes that Mr. Miller's extensive experience provides him with detailed and in-depth knowledge of the Company's business and industry and the issues facing the Company, and that he is thus best positioned to develop agendas that ensure that the Board's time and attention are focused on the most critical matters.

The Board believes that his combined role enables decisive leadership, ensures clear accountability, and enhances the Company's ability to communicate its message and strategy clearly and consistently to the Company's stockholders, employees, vendors and customers.

Although the Board of Directors believes that the combination of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer roles is appropriate in the current circumstances, it has not established this approach as a formal policy.

### ***Risk Oversight***

Company management is responsible for assessing and managing risk, subject to oversight by the Board of Directors. The Board satisfies this responsibility through reports by each committee chair regarding such committee's considerations and actions, as well as through regular reports directly from the officers responsible for oversight of risks within the Company. As part of this process, the Board and management actively engage in discussions of potential and perceived risks to the business. The Board regularly meets with the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and the General Counsel, as well as other Company executives as appropriate, in the Board's consideration of matters submitted for board approval and risks associated with such matters.

The Board is assisted in its oversight responsibilities by the standing Board committees, which have assigned areas of oversight responsibilities for various matters as described in the committee charters. For example, the Audit Committee assists the Board's oversight of the integrity of the Company's financial statements, the qualifications and independence of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, and the performance of the Company's internal audit function and independent registered public accounting firm. In carrying out this responsibility, the Audit Committee works closely with management, including the Director of Internal Audit. The Audit Committee meets at least quarterly with members of management, including the Director of Internal Audit, and, among other things, receives an update on management's assessment of risk exposures (including risks related to liquidity, credit, and operations, among others).

The Compensation Committee oversees the compensation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and other executive officers and evaluates the appropriate compensation incentives to motivate senior management to grow long-term stockholder returns without undue risk taking. Company management has regularly reviewed all employee compensation policies and practices to determine if the Company's compensation program encourages risks (such as a focus on short term goals without consideration of long term consequences) that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. At a meeting of the Compensation Committee in February 2014, management presented the findings of its most recent review, including its conclusion that the Company's compensation programs do not encourage risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. This conclusion was primarily the result of the fact that the Company does not have incentive compensation programs that are based upon the achievement of specific performance goals or financial targets, which have been identified as creating such risks. Because the Company's incentive compensation is primarily based upon overall Company performance and is not tied to the individual employee achieving any specific target metrics, management concluded that there is little motivation or opportunity for employees to take undue risks to achieve incentive compensation awards. In addition, all equity awards to employees vest over several years, which helps to align employees' focus on long-term results. Following discussion, the Compensation Committee concurred in management's conclusion.

#### **Audit Committee Report**

The Company's management has primary responsibility for the Company's financial statements and overall reporting process, including the Company's system of internal control over financial reporting and assessing the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. The Company's independent registered public accounting firm audits the annual financial statements prepared by management, expresses an opinion as to whether those financial statements fairly present the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the Company in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and discusses with the Audit Committee any issues that the independent registered public accounting firm believes should be brought to its attention. The Audit Committee oversees and monitors the Company's financial reporting process and the quality of its internal and external audit process.

The Audit Committee has reviewed the Company's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013 and the notes thereto and discussed such financial statements with management and Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, acting as the Company's independent auditors. Management has represented to the Audit Committee that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

The Audit Committee has discussed with Deloitte & Touche LLP the matters required to be discussed by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) Auditing Standard No. 16, *Communications with Audit Committees*, which includes, among other items, the independent auditors' responsibilities, any significant issues arising during the audit and any other matters related to the conduct of the audit of the Company's financial statements. The Audit Committee also discussed with Deloitte & Touche LLP such other matters as are required to be discussed by rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and other applicable regulations.

The Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and correspondence from Deloitte & Touche LLP required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding Deloitte & Touche LLP's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with Deloitte & Touche LLP its independence from the Company.

The Audit Committee also reviewed management's report on its assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting and the independent registered public accounting firm's report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

The Audit Committee discussed with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm the overall scope and plans for its audit. The Audit Committee meets at least quarterly with the independent registered public accounting firm, with and without management present, to discuss the results of its review or examination, its evaluation of the Company's internal control, including internal control over financial reporting, and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting.

**Conclusion**

Based on the review and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Company's Board of Directors that the Company's audited financial statements and management's assessment of effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SUBMITTED BY AUDIT COMMITTEE OF

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David R. Jessick (Chair)

Sandra N. Bane

Jennifer H. Dunbar

April 21, 2014

*No portion of this Audit Committee Report shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act) or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), through any general statement incorporating by reference in its entirety the Proxy Statement in which this report appears, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates this report or a portion of it by reference. In addition, this report shall not be deemed to be filed under either the Securities Act or the Exchange Act.*

**Stockholder Communications with the Board of Directors**

Stockholders may send communications about matters of general interest to the stockholders of the Company to the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board, the Chair of the Audit Committee, the Chair of the Compensation Committee or the Chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee at the following address: Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation, Attention: Secretary, 2525 East El Segundo Blvd, El Segundo, CA 90245-4632. The Secretary will compile these communications and periodically deliver them to the Chairman of the Board or, where applicable, to the Chair of the committee to which such communication was addressed, unless otherwise specifically addressed. Communications relating to accounting, internal controls over financial reporting or auditing matters will be referred to the Chair of the Audit Committee. The Chairman of the Board or, where applicable, the Chair of the committee to which such communication was addressed, will determine in his or her discretion which communications will be relayed to other board or committee members.

**Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

The Company has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of the Company's employees, including the Company's senior financial and executive officers, as well as the Company's directors. The Company will disclose any waivers of, or amendments to, any provision of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to the Company's directors and senior financial and executive officers on the Company's website, [www.big5sportinggoods.com](http://www.big5sportinggoods.com).

**Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

For the fiscal year ended December 29, 2013, the Compensation Committee consisted of Sandra N. Bane (as Chair from and after April 25, 2013), Dominic P. DeMarco and Jennifer H. Dunbar. Up to and including April 25, 2013, G. Michael Brown also served on the Compensation Committee and acted as its Chair, and up to and including July 25, 2013, David R. Jessick also served on the Committee. None of these individuals is or has been an officer or employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries. Ms. Bane, Mr. DeMarco, Ms. Dunbar and Mr. Jessick do not have any relationship requiring disclosure under any paragraph of Item 404 of Regulation S-K. Mr. Brown is a partner at the law firm of Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP. From time to time, the Company retains Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP to handle various litigation matters.

No interlocking relationship existed between the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee of the Company and the board of directors or compensation committee of any other company.



## Compensation Committee Report

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with the Company's management and, based on our review and discussions, we recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement.

### COMPENSATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sandra N. Bane (Chair)

Dominic P. DeMarco

Jennifer H. Dunbar

April 21, 2014

*No portion of this Compensation Committee Report shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act through any general statement incorporating by reference in its entirety the Proxy Statement in which this report appears, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates this report or a portion of it by reference. In addition, this report shall not be deemed to be filed under either the Securities Act or the Exchange Act.*

## Executive Officers

The following section sets forth certain information with respect to the Company's current executive officers (other than Steven G. Miller, whose information is set forth above under "Directors Whose Terms Will Expire in 2014 and are Nominees for Reelection at the Annual Meeting (Class C Directors)"). Executive officers serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors, subject to rights, if any, under contracts of employment. See "Executive and Director Compensation and Related Matters," "Employment Agreements and Change in Control Provisions."

| Name               | Age | Position with the Company   |
|--------------------|-----|---|
| Steven G. Miller   | 62  | Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and President |
| Richard A. Johnson | 68  | Executive Vice President  |
| Boyd O. Clark      | 56  | Senior Vice President, Buying   |
| Barry D. Emerson   | 56  | Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer              |
| Jeffrey L. Fraley  | 57  | Senior Vice President, Human Resources                                    |
| Gary S. Meade      | 67  | Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary                      |
| Shane O. Starr     | 56  | Senior Vice President, Operations   |

*Richard A. Johnson* was named Executive Vice President in March 2007. Prior to that, he served as Senior Vice President, Store Operations since 1992. Prior to that, Mr. Johnson was Vice President, Store Operations since 1982. Age: 68.

*Boyd O. Clark* was promoted to Senior Vice President, Buying in August 2011. Prior to that, he served as the Company's Vice President, Buying since 1999. Age: 56.

*Barry D. Emerson* has served as Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer since October 2005 and as Senior Vice President since September 2005. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Emerson was employed by U. S. Auto Parts Network, Inc., an ecommerce distributor of aftermarket auto parts in the United States, where he served as Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer during 2005. Prior to that, Mr. Emerson served as Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer of Elite Information Group, Inc., a software product and services company, from 1999 through 2004. Age: 56.

*Jeffrey L. Fraley* has served as Senior Vice President, Human Resources since July 2001. Prior to that, Mr. Fraley served as Vice President, Human Resources from 1992 to 2001. Age: 57.



*Gary S. Meade* has served as Senior Vice President since July 2001 and General Counsel and Secretary since 1997. Mr. Meade also served as Vice President from 1997 to 2001. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Meade was employed by Thrifty Payless, Inc., a retail drug store company, where he served as Vice President, Legal Affairs and Secretary from 1994 through 1996, and by Thrifty Corporation, a retail drug store company which was the parent company of Big 5 Sporting Goods until 1992, where he served as Vice President, Legal Affairs and Secretary from 1992 through 1994 and Vice President, Legal Affairs from 1979 through 1992. Age: 67.

*Shane O. Starr* has served as Senior Vice President, Operations, since March 2007. Prior to that, he served as the Company's Vice President of Operations since 1999. Age: 56.

## EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR COMPENSATION AND RELATED MATTERS

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

#### Overview and 2013 Summary

The discussion of our compensation philosophies and procedures described below applies to all of our executive officers. However, in accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, our discussion will focus on the compensation structure in effect for the following executive officers (who will be referred to as our Named Executive Officers):

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Steven G. Miller   | Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and President |
| Barry D. Emerson   | Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer              |
| Boyd O. Clark      | Senior Vice President, Buying   |
| Richard A. Johnson | Executive Vice President  |
| Gary S. Meade      | Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary                      |

Attracting, motivating and retaining well-qualified and highly-talented executives are essential to the success of any company. We believe that our business and the interests of our shareholders are best served by continuity and stability of our management team. In the retail sporting goods industry, the market for top executive talent is highly competitive. Accordingly, the goals of our compensation program are to encourage retention of top executives who may have attractive opportunities at other companies, to provide significant rewards for successful performance, particularly over the longer term, and to align our Named Executive Officers' and other executive officers' interests with those of the stockholders. We believe these goals can be achieved by a program of executive compensation which stresses long-term incentives and which is stable and consistent over time. Our executive compensation program therefore has varied very little over the past ten years. We believe that our executive compensation policy has been successful in encouraging retention, because our Named Executive Officers have an average tenure of 27 years with us.

Our Named Executive Officers' compensation consists of three primary elements: (i) base salary, (ii) annual bonus awards from a company-wide bonus pool that has historically represented approximately 5% of the Company's overall EBITDA for the applicable year; and (iii) long-term stock-based incentive awards in the form of restricted stock awards and (in prior years) stock options.

When setting these elements of compensation, our Compensation Committee does not use specific performance criteria or attempt to tie compensation to specific benchmarks against any peer group companies. Instead, the Committee considers a variety of factors, including Company performance, individual performance and competitive data.

Company performance in a given fiscal year is weighed heavily in determining base salaries for the following year. The Committee also considers individual performance as well as the salaries of various similarly situated companies.



Annual bonus awards are generally tied to Company EBITDA performance. The amount of total bonuses paid typically increases or decreases in direct proportion to the percentage of increase or decrease in EBITDA.

Company performance is also a major factor in determining the size and value of any equity grants.

Although the cash component has traditionally been, and continues to be, the largest portion of our Named Executive Officer's compensation, the Committee believes that the interests of our Named Executive Officers are aligned with shareholder interests as a result of our equity grants and the fact that the annual bonus award, which represents a large portion of the cash compensation, is generally tied to Company EBITDA performance. Because we set base salaries and award equity grants in March of each year, salary increases (if any) for a fiscal year and the size and value of the equity grants shown as compensation for a given fiscal year tend to be reflective of the Company's performance in the prior fiscal year. Conversely, since bonuses for each fiscal year are primarily based upon the Company's EBITDA in that fiscal year, and are determined and paid in March of the following year, bonuses shown as compensation for a given fiscal year reflect the Company's performance in that fiscal year.

With respect to compensation shown below for 2013, this resulted in the following:

Base salaries for 2013 for our Named Executive Officers were increased by 2.7%, after having been frozen for two prior years, due to improvement in the Company's performance in fiscal 2012.

Bonuses for fiscal 2013 (determined in March 2014) were substantially increased from the prior year, because the Company's EBITDA was similarly increased over 2012. Specifically, in 2013, EBITDA increased by 51%, the amount of total bonuses paid increased by 49%, and the bonuses paid to the Named Executive Officers as a group increased by 50%.

The value of equity grants (made in March 2013) increased from that of 2012 grants, primarily reflecting the increase in the Company's stock price from March 2012 to March 2013, which was partially offset by a reduction in the number of shares granted.

#### **Process**

Our compensation decisions are made by the Compensation Committee, which is composed entirely of independent members of our Board of Directors. The Compensation Committee's philosophy is to provide a compensation package that attracts, motivates and retains executive talent and aligns the interests of management with those of the stockholders. Specifically, the objectives of the Compensation Committee's practices are to:

- (1) provide a total compensation program that is competitive with companies with whom we compete for talent;
- (2) link short term incentives to financial performance;
- (3) provide long term compensation that focuses management's efforts on building stockholder value and aligning their interests with our stockholders; and
- (4) promote stability and retention of our management team.

The Compensation Committee receives recommendations from our President and Chief Executive Officer (our Principal Executive Officer), and considers factors such as publicly-available information on executive compensation, including industry comparisons and competitive data, each executive's role and responsibilities, and the responsibility levels of the executives relative to one another. Our Chief Executive Officer does not participate in the deliberations of the Compensation Committee with respect to setting his compensation.

When making its compensation decisions, the Compensation Committee has not targeted compensation to specific benchmarks against any peer group companies. The Compensation Committee and our Chief Executive Officer believe it is difficult to establish a group of peer companies that is representative of the Company's business, management structure and management experience for a truly comparative benchmarking. In addition, the Compensation Committee and the Chief Executive Officer believe that targeting compensation solely to specific benchmarks against peer group companies would necessarily not reflect any differences in the specific



performance or differing experience levels and operational responsibilities of the individual Named Executive Officers, any differences in the overall performance of the peer group companies or any additional factors affecting compensation decisions.

Nonetheless, in the course of his diligence effort toward arriving at his recommendations to the Compensation Committee, the Chief Executive Officer identifies for the Compensation Committee various companies whose compensation levels he determines to be relevant to ensure that the Company's compensation levels are not materially inconsistent with market practice of competitors and similarly-situated companies, recognizing and taking into account the fact that the level of experience of the Company's executives typically exceeds the experience of executives in comparable positions at these peer companies. In that regard, for purposes of determining base salaries, the Chief Executive Officer looks at data from proxy statements and other public information available for certain publicly-traded retail companies including Cabela's Incorporated, Dick's Sporting Goods, Inc., The Finish Line, Inc., Hibbett Sports, Inc., Shoe Carnival, Inc., and Sport Chalet, Inc. In the Chief Executive Officer's and the Compensation Committee's view, these companies represent certain key competitors in the sporting goods retail industry as well as certain similarly situated specialty retailers in terms of geographic location and size. As indicated above, neither the Compensation Committee nor the Chief Executive Officer attempts to formulaically tie the Company's compensation levels to those of any of these peer group companies. Instead, the data is used only to inform the Chief Executive Officer and the Compensation Committee regarding general market practice in order to allow them to assess the reasonableness of the Company's compensation practices over time.

Further, the Compensation Committee does not establish any specific quantitative company or individual performance objectives, or any predetermined qualitative performance objectives, that must be achieved in order for a Named Executive Officer to earn any portion of his compensation. The Compensation Committee's decision regarding annual base salaries, any equity awards and any annual incentive bonus received by each Named Executive Officer is a subjective one that is made by the Compensation Committee in its discretion after an overall assessment of all of the factors it deems appropriate. Factors that have historically been considered by the Compensation Committee when determining compensation to be paid to each Named Executive Officer include the Company's overall financial performance in the prior year, the executive's individual performance of his duties as evaluated in the subjective discretion of the Compensation Committee and the Chief Executive Officer, cost of living increases and the Chief Executive Officer's recommendations.

For example, base salaries for 2011 and 2012 were frozen at 2010 levels in light of the Company's 2010 and 2011 financial performance and the continuing weakness in the consumer spending environment, and bonuses for 2011 were reduced in comparison to those for 2010 (and substantially reduced in comparison to earlier years such as 2006 and 2007) in light of the decline in the Company's EBITDA in 2011. Bonuses for 2012 and 2013, and base salaries for 2013 and 2014, were increased in March 2013 and March 2014, respectively, in light of the Company's improved 2012 and 2013 financial performance.

In addition, with respect to individual performance, the Chief Executive Officer interacts with all of the other Named Executive Officers on a near daily basis throughout the year, and his subjective views on each such officer's performance are reflected in his recommendations to the Compensation Committee. Furthermore, members of the Compensation Committee (while serving on the Compensation Committee, other Board committees or while attending meetings and functions of the Company's Board of Directors generally) also interact frequently with the Chief Executive Officer, Named Executive Officers and certain other executive officers, and have available other data relating to the performance of the business units or functions for which each Named Executive Officer is responsible. As a result, the Compensation Committee members also form their own subjective views on each executive's performance throughout the year, and these assessments, along with the Chief Executive Officer's recommendations, are considered in setting overall and relative salary and bonus levels and equity grants. Using those assessments, the Compensation Committee will, at the Chief Executive Officer's recommendation or when it otherwise deems it appropriate, modify compensation levels to reflect individual performance.

As noted above, our Named Executive Officers have an average tenure of 27 years with us. Consequently, the Company believes that, as a practical matter, the skills, scope of duties and relative contributions of these officers tend to be more consistent from year to year in comparison to the executive officers of companies for

which there has been more turnover. Accordingly, the year over year compensation levels, and the compensation levels of our Named Executive Officers relative to one another, tend to reflect that fact. With respect to Mr. Clark, the Compensation Committee determined the compensation package to be offered to Mr. Clark in connection with his August 2011 promotion based in part upon his predecessor's prior compensation for serving in that position and Mr. Clark's compensation level and performance history prior to his promotion, but also factoring in his fewer years of experience and the fact that Mr. Clark would be taking on expanded duties in his new position for which he did not yet have an established track record of performance.

The Company retained an independent compensation consultant, Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. (Cook), in designing the 2007 Equity and Performance Incentive Plan (the 2007 Plan) and designing the amendment and restatement of the 2007 Plan in 2011. The Company also retained Cook in 2010 to advise regarding the implementation of a voluntary deferral plan for equity grants to non-employee directors. The Compensation Committee and the Company have not otherwise used outside consultants in making compensation determinations. The work of Cook did not raise any conflict of interest.

Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m) generally disallows a tax deduction to reporting companies for compensation over \$1,000,000 paid to each of the company's chief executive officer and the four other most highly compensated officers, except for compensation that is performance based. Section 162(m) has not been a factor in the design of our executive compensation program because the compensation of our executives other than our Chief Executive Officer has not approached \$1,000,000, and the compensation of our Chief Executive Officer, except for stock options which are performance based compensation, has in certain years exceeded \$1,000,000 only by a minor amount.

### *Elements of Compensation*

#### *Salary*

As noted above, because we set base salaries in March of each year, salary increases (if any) for a fiscal year tend to be reflective of the Company's performance in the prior fiscal year.

Our Compensation Committee generally reviews the base salaries of our Named Executive Officers annually. The salaries of our Named Executive Officers are determined in the sole discretion of the Compensation Committee, after receiving recommendations from our Chief Executive Officer. As noted above, the Compensation Committee considers individual and Company performance, as well as factors such as publicly-available information on executive compensation, including industry comparisons and competitive data, each executive's role and responsibilities, and the responsibility levels of the executives relative to one another. We believe that the salaries of our Named Executive Officers are at or below the median of salaries paid by other companies in the market with whom we compete for talent. As noted above, base salaries for 2011 and 2012 were frozen at 2010 levels in light of the Company's 2010 and 2011 financial performance and the continuing weakness in the consumer spending environment. The Compensation Committee approved moderate increases in base salaries for 2013 and 2014 as a result of the Company's improved 2012 and 2013 financial performance.

#### *Bonuses*

As noted above, since bonuses for each fiscal year are primarily based upon the Company's EBITDA in that fiscal year, and are determined and paid in March of the following year, bonuses shown as compensation for a given fiscal year reflect the Company's performance in that fiscal year.

We intend that bonuses paid to our Named Executive Officers will reward them for the achievement of successful financial performance over a relatively short period of time (typically one fiscal year). The bonuses of our Named Executive Officers are determined in the sole discretion of the Compensation Committee, after receiving recommendations from our Chief Executive Officer.

Although the Company does not set specific Company or individual performance targets for purposes of determining the bonuses, the total amount of the annual bonuses paid to our salaried employees (except for store managers) has historically been correlated with the amount of our earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, with the total amount of this bonus pool increasing or decreasing in relative

proportion to the increase or decrease in EBITDA. For example, in 2011, EBITDA decreased by 29% in comparison to 2010, and the total amount of the bonus pool accordingly decreased by 28%. Conversely, EBITDA in 2012 was 19% higher than in 2011, and the overall bonus pool increased by 21%. Similarly, EBITDA in 2013 was 51% higher than in 2012, and the overall bonus pool increased by 49%.

The total amount of the bonus pool has historically been set at or about 5% of our EBITDA. Specifically, since the Company's initial public offering in 2002, the bonus pool has ranged from a low of 4.6% of EBITDA to a high of 5.4%. For 2013, the overall Company bonus pool was 5.3% of EBITDA.

The Committee varies the bonus pool as a percentage of EBITDA (as well as the percentage of the bonus pool allocable to Named Executive Officers) slightly from year to year based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to the number of salaried employees who will be paid from the bonus pool and the Company's actual EBITDA. If EBITDA is abnormally low compared with historical patterns, the Compensation Committee may set the overall bonus pool as a percentage of EBITDA at slightly above 5% in order to allow the Company to pay most salaried employees amounts determined to be reasonable while still reflecting a reduction in the overall bonus pool (and absolute amounts of the bonuses) in light of the lower EBITDA. The converse may be true in years where EBITDA is abnormally high compared with historical patterns. For example, due to the general economic climate (and the weak consumer spending environment in particular), the Company's EBITDA was substantially lower in 2011 and 2012 in comparison to 2007 and prior years. Consequently, although the bonus pool as a percentage of EBITDA was 5.3% for 2011 and 5.4% for 2012, the absolute size of the pool decreased substantially from prior years (to approximately \$2.0 million for 2011 and \$2.4 million for 2012, as compared to, for example, approximately \$3.6 million for 2007 and approximately \$3.8 million for 2006). This naturally resulted in substantial reductions of bonuses for Named Executive Officers for 2011 and 2012 as compared to 2007 and prior years. The bonus pool for 2013 rose substantially (to approximately \$3.6 million) due to the improvement in EBITDA.

In addition, the Compensation Committee determined that the reductions in bonuses for 2011 and 2012 should be borne somewhat disproportionately by our senior executive officers, including Named Executive Officers, in part to protect the bonuses of various lower compensated employees. As a result, the Named Executive Officers' percentage of these overall bonus pools decreased from 37.4% for 2007 (a relatively strong year) to 23.4% for 2011 and 26.4% for 2012. Thus, for 2011, when EBITDA decreased by 29% and the amount of total bonuses paid decreased by 28%, the bonuses paid to the Named Executive Officers as a group (excluding Mr. Clark, whose bonus was determined as part of a promotion package) decreased by 37%. Our Chief Executive Officer received a 49% reduction in bonus for 2011. Bonuses paid to Named Executive Officers (excluding Mr. Clark) for 2012 then increased by 28% as a result of improved EBITDA in 2012. Our Chief Executive Officer received a higher percentage increase in bonus in light of his substantial and disproportionate reduction in bonus in 2011 and the Company's substantially improved performance in 2012. Mr. Clark's bonus for 2012 reflected a greater increase since he held his current position for only a portion of 2011. Bonuses paid to the Named Executive Officers as a group for 2013 increased by 50% in light of the 51% improvement in EBITDA for 2013, and accounted for 26.6% of the overall bonus pool.

Bonus payments to each of our Named Executive Officers are based on his individual contributions to the success of our business for the year, and fairness and proportionality of the Named Executive Officer's compensation when compared with the compensation for the year of our Chief Executive Officer and the other Named Executive Officers, as determined by the Compensation Committee in its discretion. In the case of Mr. Clark, his 2011 bonus was also influenced by the fact that he served in his current position only since August 1, 2011. These practices have been essentially uniform for the past ten years. We believe that the bonuses paid to our Named Executive Officers are at or below the median range of bonuses paid by other companies in the market with whom we compete for talent.

#### *Long-Term Incentive Compensation (Equity Awards)*

As noted above, because we award equity grants in March of each year, the size and value of the equity grants shown as compensation for a given fiscal year tend to be reflective of the Company's performance in the prior fiscal year.

Our shareholder-approved equity compensation plan permits a variety of equity-based awards. We believe that awards of equity-based compensation (both stock options and restricted stock awards) to Named Executive Officers provide a valuable long-term incentive for them, and help align their interests with the stockholders' interests.

We periodically grant equity-based awards to some or all of our Named Executive Officers, typically in connection with their annual performance and compensation reviews in March of each year. We do not necessarily grant equity awards to our Named Executive Officers annually; we want our Named Executive Officers to understand that such grants are not an entitlement. Our Compensation Committee determines the size of each grant, after receiving recommendations from our Chief Executive Officer. In determining the size of equity awards to Named Executive Officers, consideration is given to the value of total direct compensation, the Company's recent financial performance, individual performance, the number and value of stock options and restricted shares previously granted to the Named Executive Officer and the relative proportion of long-term incentives within the total compensation mix.

However, with respect to considerations of Company performance, because such grants typically occur in March following the Named Executive Officers' annual employment reviews, and as they are not intended as bonus compensation for the prior year, they will be reflected in the Summary Compensation Table below for the year following the fiscal year for which Company financial performance was considered in connection with the award. For example, the value of equity awards given in March 2012 (and reflected as compensation for 2012) was substantially reduced compared to 2011, primarily due to the drop in the Company's stock price from March 2011 to March 2012. Conversely, the value of equity awards given in March 2013 (and reflected as compensation for 2013) increased by 28% compared to 2012, primarily reflecting the increase in the Company's stock price from March 2012 to March 2013, which was partially offset by a reduction in the number of shares granted.

In all cases, the value actually realized by the Named Executive Officers will depend upon the market price of our common stock at the time of any sale, which cannot occur until shares vest.

Our Compensation Committee generally considers equity grants to Named Executive Officers and other employees at committee meetings which coincide with the employees' annual performance and compensation reviews, and, in the case of stock options, the exercise price of each stock option granted is the closing price of our stock on the day of the meeting. However, in the case of Mr. Clark, the grant of his stock options in connection with his mid-year 2011 promotion to Senior Vice President, Buying, was made in a connection with a special meeting called to determine his overall compensation package. The Compensation Committee generally considers grants to select newly-hired executives at committee meetings which coincide with the next regularly-scheduled quarterly board meeting following the date of hire, and the exercise price of each such stock option is the closing price of our stock on the day of the meeting. We do not intend to grant options while in possession of material non-public information, except pursuant to a pre-existing policy under which options are granted on fixed dates of our annual stockholders meeting (in the case of grants to certain of our directors who are not Named Executive Officers) or of Compensation Committee meetings. Our Compensation Committee meetings which coincide with the employees' annual performance and compensation reviews, and at which our Compensation Committee considers grants to Named Executive Officers who are not newly-hired, are scheduled to coincide with trading windows for our common stock.

We believe that unvested equity awards are a valuable tool to encourage employee retention, and, accordingly, our equity awards (both stock options and restricted stock) to our Named Executive Officers generally vest over a four year period.

Although the long-term incentive represented by equity awards has been a significant component of the compensation of our Named Executive Officers, we believe that the value of our equity awards to our Named Executive Officers, on an annualized basis, is relatively modest, and is reasonable and appropriate, when compared to the size of equity awards to similar officers of other companies in the market with whom we compete for talent. We also believe that these equity awards have resulted in minimal stock dilution. For example, during fiscal years 2011, 2012 and 2013, such equity awards to Named Executive Officers represented 0.2%, 0.2% and 0.3%, respectively, of shares outstanding as of the grant dates.

We believe that stock options can be an important component of a well-designed compensation package for our Named Executive Officers in order to achieve successful results, since the executives can realize value on their stock options only if the stock price increases, and the long-term incentive of stock options is important in realizing our goal of continuity and stability of our executive team. In view of what we believe are relatively modest amounts of bonuses that we pay to our Named Executive Officers, the Company believes that stock options can be a particularly important component of rewarding them for successful long term results. Prior to 2008, our equity-based awards consisted solely of stock options. We also granted stock options to our Named Executive Officers in March of 2009.

Following the initial adoption of our 2007 Plan, our Compensation Committee began to reassess the appropriate balance of stock options and restricted stock awards in our executives' overall compensation. We believe restricted stock provides a further enhancement to retention, as restricted stock generally maintains a greater value than stock options during cyclical downturns in our stock price, our industry or the stock market and general economy, and it also pays dividends. We also believe that inclusion of restricted stock in our equity award packages more closely aligns the interests of our Named Executive Officers with those of stockholders, in light of the volatility of the stock market and the additional volatility of stock option value relative to changes in market value of the underlying stock. We note that the inclusion of restricted stock as a component of equity compensation for officers is a trend among public companies.

For these reasons, we have elected to include restricted stock grants as part of our long term incentive compensation strategy for our Named Executive Officers. Accordingly, in March 2008 we first granted restricted stock along with stock options to certain of our Named Executive Officers. In March 2011, March 2012, and March 2013 (and again in March 2014), we granted solely restricted stock (and no stock options) to our Named Executive Officers to further balance the mix of stock options and restricted shares in their overall incentive package.

We will continue to evaluate which equity award vehicles achieve the best balance between continuing our successful practice of providing equity-based compensation and creating and maintaining long term shareholder value.

#### *Change in Control Payments*

Our Named Executive Officers generally do not have employment agreements that provide that they will receive payments if we undergo a change in control. The employment agreement of our Chief Executive Officer contains a change in control provision. This provision permits him to receive the change in control payments if he leaves for any reason within six months after the change in control. The Chief Executive Officer must resign to receive the change in control payments, so this provision is not a true "single trigger" provision. The reason for this provision is that a change in control of a publicly traded corporation would almost invariably affect the powers, role, and reporting relationships of its principal executive officer. If a change in control of our Company occurs, our Chief Executive Officer's employment agreement gives him the right to depart from the Company and receive the change in control payments if he deems his position to have been negatively affected by the change in control, without the need to demonstrate an objective, adverse effect such as reduction in compensation. If the change is not negative, the employment agreement allows him to stay with the Company and no severance payments will be made. We believe this provision is desirable from our standpoint because it enables our Chief Executive Officer to focus solely on the best interests of our stockholders in the event of a possible, threatened or pending change in control, without undue concern for his own personal interests.

Our Chief Executive Officer's employment agreement also contains provisions for payment on dismissal without cause or quitting for good reason, which could apply after as well as before a change in control. In March 2009, this employment agreement was amended whereby our Chief Executive Officer voluntarily agreed to reduce his lump sum severance payment for these termination events. See "Employment Agreements and Change in Control Provisions."

We have entered into a severance agreement with our Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (our Principal Financial Officer), which provides that he will receive certain payments if we terminate his employment other than for cause. These provisions can operate after as well as before a change in control. These provisions were the result of arm's length negotiations between us and our Chief Financial Officer when we hired him.

We do not expect to provide gross up payments to our Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer if they receive payments in connection with a change in control which would cause them to be subject to the excise tax of Internal Revenue Code Section 4999, which we refer to as the Golden Parachute Excise Tax. With respect to our Chief Executive Officer, his employment agreement specifically provides that payments in connection with the change in control will be reduced to the extent necessary to prevent them from being subject to the Golden Parachute Excise Tax. With respect to our Chief Financial Officer, we do not expect that any such payments made to him will be large enough to trigger the Golden Parachute Excise Tax.

In addition, the vesting of all stock options and restricted stock granted under the 2007 Plan, including those to our executive officers and directors, will accelerate upon a change of control of the Company.

#### *All Other Compensation*

All other compensation to our Named Executive Officers includes, among other things, Company contributions and other allocations made on behalf of the individuals under the Company's defined contribution plan. We have also provided perquisites to our Named Executive Officers that have an annual incremental cost to us of \$10,000 or more, which consist of the value attributable to personal use of Company-provided automobiles and payments of group term life insurance premiums.

#### Summary Compensation Table

| Name and Principal Position                                  | Fiscal Year | Salary<br>\$(1) | Bonus<br>\$(2) | Stock Awards<br>\$(3) | Option Awards<br>\$(4) | Change in Pension Value and                    |   | All Other Compensation<br>\$(5) | Total<br>(\$) |
|--|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|---------------|
|  |             |                 |                |                       |                        | Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation<br>(\$) | Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings<br>(\$) |                                 |               |
| Steven G. Miller   | 2013        | \$ 496,539      | \$ 300,000     | \$ 98,048             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 33,986                       | \$ 928,573    |
| Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer | 2012        | \$ 485,000      | \$ 200,000     | \$ 78,200             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 29,076                       | \$ 792,276    |
|  | 2011        | \$ 485,000      | \$ 140,000     | \$ 160,785            | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 26,043                       | \$ 811,828    |
| Barry D. Emerson   | 2013        | \$ 342,231      | \$ 165,000     | \$ 36,768             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 27,396                       | \$ 571,395    |
| Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer | 2012        | \$ 333,000      | \$ 110,000     | \$ 28,152             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 25,309                       | \$ 496,461    |
|  | 2011        | \$ 333,000      | \$ 92,500      | \$ 42,876             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 22,727                       | \$ 491,103    |
| Boyd O. Clark  | 2013        | \$ 256,923      | \$ 212,000     | \$ 36,768             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 23,292                       | \$ 528,983    |
| Senior Vice President, Buying                                | 2012        | \$ 250,000      | \$ 141,000     | \$ 28,152             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 20,218                       | \$ 439,370    |
|  | 2011        | \$ 231,808      | \$ 76,000      | \$ 33,348             | \$ 54,534              | 0  | 0   | \$ 12,446                       | \$ 408,136    |
| Richard A. Johnson   | 2013        | \$ 256,923      | \$ 178,500     | \$ 36,768             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 28,516                       | \$ 500,707    |
| Executive Vice President                                     | 2012        | \$ 250,000      | \$ 119,000     | \$ 28,152             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 25,233                       | \$ 422,385    |
|  | 2011        | \$ 250,000      | \$ 100,000     | \$ 42,876             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 23,475                       | \$ 416,351    |
| Gary S. Meade  | 2013        | \$ 220,654      | \$ 103,000     | \$ 36,768             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 27,506                       | \$ 387,928    |
| Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary         | 2012        | \$ 214,500      | \$ 68,500      | \$ 28,152             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 23,677                       | \$ 334,829    |
|  | 2011        | \$ 214,500      | \$ 57,500      | \$ 42,876             | 0                      | 0  | 0   | \$ 21,378                       | \$ 336,254    |



(1) The amounts in this Salary column reflect amounts actually earned in the applicable fiscal year. Such amounts reflect a blended amount based on the base salary in effect prior to any annual salary increase (which typically occurs in March of each year) and the higher base salary for the remainder of the year. Each of the Named Executive Officers received salary increases that were effective March 17, 2014, resulting in the following new base annual salaries:

Steven G. Miller: \$512,500

Barry D. Emerson: \$353,500

Boyd O. Clark: \$265,500

Richard A. Johnson: \$265,500

Gary S. Meade: \$228,000

- (2) The amounts in this Bonus column reflect amounts earned in the applicable fiscal year but not paid until the following fiscal year.
- (3) The dollar value of Stock Awards shown represents the aggregate grant date fair value calculated in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, or FASB ASC Topic 718, on the basis of the Company's common stock price on the grant dates and without any adjustment for estimated forfeitures. Each Stock Award entitles the Named Executive Officer to receive one share of our common stock at the time of vesting without the payment of an exercise price or other cash consideration. The amounts reported in the Stock Awards column do not necessarily reflect the dollar amounts of compensation actually realized or that may be realized. The actual value that a Named Executive Officer will realize on each Stock Award will depend on the price per share of our common stock at the time shares underlying the Stock Awards are sold.
- (4) The dollar value of Option Awards shown represents the aggregate grant date fair value calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, on the basis of the fair value of the option on the grant dates and without any adjustment for estimated forfeitures. Each Option Award entitles the Named Executive Officer to purchase one share of our common stock at the time of vesting upon payment of the applicable exercise price. The amounts reported in the Option Awards column do not necessarily reflect the dollar amounts of compensation actually realized or that may be realized. The actual value, if any, that a Named Executive Officer may realize with respect to each option will depend on the excess of the stock price over the exercise price on the date the option is exercised and the shares underlying such option are sold.
- (5) The amounts in the All Other Compensation column include (a) the value attributable to personal use of a Company-provided automobile, which in fiscal 2013 were the following amounts: Mr. Miller: \$20,047, Mr. Emerson: \$15,289, Mr. Clark: \$13,169, Mr. Johnson: \$17,467, and Mr. Meade: \$15,057, (b) Company contributions and other allocations made on behalf of the individual under the Company's defined contribution plan, which in or for fiscal 2013 were the following amounts: Mr. Miller: \$8,569, Mr. Emerson: \$9,784, Mr. Clark: \$9,225, Mr. Johnson: \$7,970, and Mr. Meade: \$9,919, and (c) Company payments of group term life insurance premiums for the individual, which in fiscal 2013 were the following amounts: Mr. Miller: \$5,370, Mr. Emerson: \$2,323, Mr. Clark: \$898, Mr. Johnson: \$3,079, and Mr. Meade: \$2,530.

#### **Stock Options and Equity Compensation**

Effective April 24, 2007 the Board of Directors adopted the initial version of our 2007 Plan, which replaced and superseded our 2002 Stock Incentive Plan (the 2002 Plan), and in April 2011 the Board approved the current amended and restated version of the 2007 Plan. The original 2007 Plan was initially approved by our stockholders at our 2007 annual meeting of stockholders, and an amendment and restatement of the 2007 Plan was approved by our stockholders at our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders. After giving effect to the amendment and restatement of the 2007 Plan in 2011, the aggregate amount of shares authorized for issuance under the 2007 Plan was 3,649,250 shares, but with such amount to automatically increase by the number of shares that had been subject to outstanding awards as of April 24, 2007 under the 2002 Plan that are or were forfeited or cancelled, or otherwise expire, after the April 24, 2007 initial effective date of the 2007 Plan.

The 2007 Plan is administered by our Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee has broad discretion and power in operating the 2007 Plan and in determining which of our employees, directors, and consultants shall participate, and the terms of individual awards. Awards under the 2007 Plan may consist of options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, other stock unit awards, performance awards, dividend equivalents or any combination of the foregoing. Any shares that are subject to awards of options or stock appreciation rights shall be counted against this limit as one share for every one share granted. Awards of restricted stock and other awards that are not awards of stock options or stock appreciation rights (including shares delivered in settlement of dividend rights) shall be counted against this limit as 2.5 shares for every share granted. The aggregate number of shares available under the 2007 Plan and the number of shares subject to outstanding options and stock appreciation rights will be increased or decreased to reflect any changes in the outstanding common stock of the Company by reason of any recapitalization, spin-off, reorganization, reclassification, stock dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, or similar transaction. If any shares subject to an award under the 2007 Plan or the 2002 Plan described below are forfeited or expire, or are terminated without

issuance of shares, the shares shall again be available for award under the 2007 Plan. Any shares that again become available for grant shall be added back as one share if such shares were subject to options or stock appreciation rights granted under the 2007 Plan or the 2002 Plan and as 2.5 shares if such shares were subject to awards other than options or stock appreciation rights granted under the 2007 Plan.

Under the 2007 Plan, no participant may be granted in any fiscal year of the Company (a) options or stock appreciation rights with respect to more than 500,000 shares, (b) restricted stock, performance awards or other stock unit awards that are denominated in shares with respect to more than 250,000 shares, or (c) performance awards or stock unit awards that are valued by reference to cash having a maximum dollar value of more than \$2,000,000.

Under the 2007 Plan, the exercise price for an option or stock appreciation right cannot be less than 100% of the fair market value of the underlying shares on the grant date. The 2007 Plan does not permit the repricing of options or stock appreciation rights.

Prior to the adoption of the 2007 Plan, our equity-based awards were principally made under the 2002 Plan, which was adopted by our Board of Directors and approved by our shareholders in 2002 before our initial public offering. The 2002 Plan was administered by our Compensation Committee. Awards under the 2002 Plan consisted solely of stock options, and the exercise price of all options that were issued under the 2002 Plan was 100% of the fair market value of the underlying shares on the grant date.

On approval of the 2007 Plan by our shareholders in June 2007, the 2002 Plan was terminated, and no new awards were thereafter made under the 2002 Plan. However, awards previously granted continue to be outstanding under their terms. As described above, if any option outstanding under the 2002 Plan is forfeited, expires, or is terminated without issuance of the underlying shares, the underlying shares shall become available for grant under the 2007 Plan.

At April 22, 2014, net of cancellations and forfeitures:

options to purchase 963,690 shares had been issued under the 2002 Plan and the 2007 Plan,

831,385 shares of restricted stock had been awarded under the 2007 Plan, which are counted against the plan limits as 2,078,463 shares, and

33,000 restricted stock units had been awarded under the 2007 Plan, which are counted against the plan limits as 82,500 shares. Also, at April 22, 2014:

442,873 shares had been effectively transferred from the 2002 Plan to the 2007 Plan as described above as a result of forfeitures or cancellations under the 2002 Plan, and

1,524 shares had been removed from the 2007 Plan to cover dividends accrued on restricted stock units awarded under the 2007 Plan. Accordingly, at April 22, 2014,

965,946 shares were available for additional grants under the 2007 Plan. At April 22, 2014,

433,790 shares remained subject to outstanding options under the 2002 Plan,

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363,964 shares remained subject to outstanding options under the 2007 Plan,

348,795 unvested restricted shares were outstanding under the 2007 Plan, which are counted against the plan limits as 871,988 shares, and

25,500 unvested restricted stock units were outstanding under the 2007 Plan, which are counted against the plan limits as 63,750 shares. As noted above, awards of restricted stock and restricted stock units reduce the total shares available for grant under the 2007 Plan by 2.5 shares for every share or unit granted, and any such restricted shares or units that are forfeited before vesting are accordingly added back to the 2007 Plan as 2.5 shares for share or unit so forfeited.

## Grants of Plan-Based Awards in Fiscal 2013

| Name   | Grant Date | Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards |             |              | Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards |            |             | All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)(1) | All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options (#) | Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh) | Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)(2) |
|--|------------|---|-------------|--------------|---|------------|-------------|---|--|---|--|
|  |            | Threshold (\$)  | Target (\$) | Maximum (\$) | Threshold (#)   | Target (#) | Maximum (#) |   |  |   |  |
| Steven G. Miller<br>Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer | 3/14/2013  | 0   | 0           | 0            | 0   | 0          | 0           | 6,400   | 0  | 0   | \$ 98,048  |
| Barry D. Emerson<br>Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer | 3/14/2013  | 0   | 0           | 0            | 0   | 0          | 0           | 2,400   | 0  | 0   | \$ 36,768  |
| Boyd O. Clark<br>Senior Vice President, Buying                                   | 3/14/2013  | 0   | 0           | 0            | 0   | 0          | 0           | 2,400   | 0  | 0   | \$ 36,768  |
| Richard A. Johnson<br>Executive Vice President                                   | 3/14/2013  | 0   | 0           | 0            | 0   | 0          | 0           | 2,400   | 0  | 0   | \$ 36,768  |
| Gary S. Meade<br>Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary            | 3/14/2013  | 0   | 0           | 0            | 0   | 0          | 0           | 2,400   | 0  | 0   | \$ 36,768  |

(1) These shares of restricted stock vest in four equal annual installments beginning on March 14, 2014.

(2) The dollar value of Stock Awards shown represents the aggregate grant date fair value calculated in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, or FASB ASC Topic 718, on the basis of the Company's common stock price on the grant dates and without any adjustment for estimated forfeitures. Each Stock Award entitles the Named Executive Officer to receive one share of our common stock at the time of vesting without the payment of an exercise price or other cash consideration. The amounts reported in the Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards column do not necessarily reflect the dollar amounts of compensation actually realized or that may be realized. The actual value that a Named Executive Officer will realize on each Stock Award will depend on the price per share of our common stock at the time shares underlying the Stock Awards are sold.

## Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal 2013 Year-End

| Name                     | Option Awards  |  |   |                            |                        | Stock Awards   |   |   | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (\$) |
|--------------------------|--|--|---|----------------------------|------------------------|--|---|---|--|
|                          | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)(1) | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)(1) | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) | Option Exercise Price (\$) | Option Expiration Date | Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)(2) | Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)(3) | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (#) |  |
| Steven G. Miller         | 30,000   | 0  |   | \$ 24.61                   | 2/13/2014              | 24,400   | \$ 468,236  |   |  |
| Chairman of the Board,   | 30,000   | 0  |   | \$ 19.12                   | 3/13/2016              |  |   |   |  |
| President and Chief      | 15,000   | 0  |   | \$ 8.95                    | 3/3/2018               |  |   |   |  |
| Executive Officer        | 15,000   |  |   | \$ 4.82                    | 3/2/2019               |  |   |   |  |
| Barry D. Emerson         | 50,000   | 0  |   | \$ 25.05                   | 9/12/2015              | 7,900  | \$ 151,601  |   |  |
| Senior Vice President,   | 20,000   | 0  |   | \$ 19.12                   | 3/13/2016              |  |   |   |  |
| Chief Financial Officer  | 10,000   | 0  |   | \$ 25.22                   | 3/12/2017              |  |   |   |  |
| and Treasurer            | 4,011  | 0  |   | \$ 4.82                    | 3/2/2019               |  |   |   |  |
| Boyd O. Clark            | 4,000  | 0  |   | \$ 24.61                   | 2/13/2014              | 7,300  | \$ 140,087  |   |  |
| Senior Vice President,   | 5,000  | 10,000   |   | \$ 7.63                    | 8/4/2021               |  |   |   |  |
| Buying                   |  |  |   |                            |                        |  |   |   |  |
| Richard A. Johnson       | 10,000   | 0  |   | \$ 24.61                   | 2/13/2014              | 7,900  | \$ 151,601  |   |  |
| Executive Vice President | 12,000   | 0  |   | \$ 19.12                   | 3/13/2016              |  |   |   |  |
| Gary S. Meade            | 10,000   | 0  |   | \$ 24.61                   | 2/13/2014              | 7,900  | \$ 151,601  |   |  |
| Senior Vice President,   | 12,000   | 0  |   | \$ 19.12                   | 3/13/2016              |  |   |   |  |
| General Counsel and      |  |  |   |                            |                        |  |   |   |  |
| Secretary                |  |  |   |                            |                        |  |   |   |  |

- (1) The vesting dates of the options reported in the second and third columns are as follows: Mr. Miller's options vested in forty-eight equal monthly installments, beginning on March 1, 2004, April 1, 2006, April 1, 2008 and April 1, 2009, respectively; Mr. Emerson's options vested in four equal annual installments, beginning on September 12, 2006, March 13, 2007, March 12, 2008 and March 2, 2010, respectively; Mr. Clark's options vested or vest in four equal annual installments beginning February 13, 2005

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and August 4, 2012, respectively; Mr. Johnson's options vested in four equal annual installments beginning February 13, 2005 and March 13, 2007, respectively; and Mr. Meade's options vested in four equal annual installments, beginning on February 13, 2005 and March 13, 2007, respectively.

- (2) The vesting dates of the unvested restricted shares reported in the seventh column are as follows: Mr. Miller's shares vest or vested on March 14, 2014 (11,225 shares), March 14, 2015 (7,475 shares), March 14, 2016 (4,100 shares) and March 14, 2017 (1,600 shares); Mr. Emerson's, Mr. Johnson's and Mr. Meade's shares each vest or vested on March 14, 2014 (3,400 shares), March 14, 2015 (2,400 shares), March 14, 2016 (1,500 shares) and March 14, 2017 (600 shares); and Mr. Clark's shares vest or vested on March 14, 2014 (3,000 shares), March 14, 2015 (2,200 shares), March 14, 2016 (1,500 shares) and March 14, 2017 (600 shares).
- (3) The amounts in the Market Value of Shares column are the fair market value of the shares on December 29, 2013, based upon our most recent closing stock price as of that date of \$19.19.

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**Option Exercises and Stock Vested in Fiscal 2013**

| Name   | Option Awards                             |                                 | Stock Awards                             |                                |
|--|---|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
|  | Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#) | Value Realized on Exercise (\$) | Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#) | Value Realized on Vesting (\$) |
| Steven G. Miller<br>Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer | 45,000                                    | \$ 995,850                      | 9,625                                    | \$ 147,455                     |
| Barry D. Emerson<br>Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer | 33,989                                    | \$ 669,460                      | 2,800                                    | \$ 42,896                      |
| Boyd O. Clark,<br>Senior Vice President, Buying                                  | 9,000                                     | \$ 194,790                      | 2,400                                    | \$ 36,768                      |
| Richard A. Johnson<br>Executive Vice President                                   | 9,000                                     | \$ 198,900                      | 2,800                                    | \$ 42,896                      |
| Gary S. Meade<br>Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary            | 4,500                                     | \$ 94,810                       | 2,800                                    | \$ 42,896                      |

**Employment Agreements and Change in Control Provisions**

The Company has an employment agreement with Mr. Steven G. Miller, who currently serves as Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer. His original agreement was executed in 2002 prior to our becoming a publicly-traded company.

In December 2008, the agreement was amended and restated for the principal purpose of complying with the provisions of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations and guidance. In general, the changes reflected in that restatement related to the timing of payments to Mr. Miller under his employment agreement following certain events. The restatement also updated various other provisions, including conforming Mr. Miller's base salary to his then current base salary, but did not materially affect the scope or amounts of compensation or benefits that Mr. Miller is entitled to receive under his agreement.

In March 2009, in an effort to align Mr. Miller's severance package more closely with current standards, the employment agreement was further amended whereby Mr. Miller voluntarily agreed to reduce the lump sum severance payment he is to receive upon certain termination events from four years annual compensation to three years annual compensation. In addition, the amendment revised the method of determining such annual compensation for that purpose as provided below.

Mr. Miller's employment agreement provides that he will serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and President for a term of four years from any given date, such that there shall always be a minimum of at least four years remaining under his employment agreement. The employment agreement provides for Mr. Miller to receive an annual base salary of \$473,000, subject to annual increase based on comparable compensation packages provided to executives in similarly situated companies, and to participate in a bonus plan to be established by the Compensation Committee. His annual base salary has since increased to \$512,500, effective March 2014. In practice, his bonuses have been determined in the discretion of the Compensation Committee. Mr. Miller is also entitled to use of a Company automobile. In addition, as long as Mr. Miller serves as an officer, the Company will use its best efforts to ensure that he continues to serve on the Company's Board of Directors and on the Board of Directors of the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, Big 5 Corp.



If Mr. Miller's employment is terminated for any reason, the employment agreement provides that he shall receive all accrued and unpaid salary and vacation pay plus a cash bonus for services rendered during that calendar year through the termination date equal to the greater of (a) the last annual cash bonus paid to Mr. Miller and (b) the average of the annual cash bonuses paid to Mr. Miller during the immediately preceding three full fiscal years, pro rated through the termination date.

If Mr. Miller's employment is terminated due to his death, in addition to the salary, vacation pay and pro rated cash bonus discussed above, the employment agreement provides for accelerated vesting of options that would have been exercisable during the 24 months following the termination date and the continuation of family medical benefits for the four years following the termination date. The table below reflects the estimated amount of payments and other benefits payable under Mr. Miller's employment agreement on a termination due to death (other than any accrued and unpaid salary and vacation pay), assuming that the termination occurred on December 29, 2013 and based upon our most recent closing stock price as of that date of \$19.19.

**Table Showing Benefits on a Termination Due to Death**

| Name             | Pro Rated Cash Bonus | Value of Option Acceleration | Value of Medical Continuation | Total      |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Steven G. Miller | \$ 238,683           | 0                            | \$ 21,089                     | \$ 259,772 |

If Mr. Miller's employment is terminated due to his disability, in addition to the salary, vacation pay and pro rated cash bonus discussed above, the employment agreement provides that the Company will pay Mr. Miller on the fifth business day following the termination date a lump sum severance payment in an amount equal to his base salary for two years and an additional amount equal to two times the greater of (i) the last annual cash bonus paid to Mr. Miller and (ii) the average annual cash bonus paid to him during the prior three fiscal years. In addition, the employment agreement provides for accelerated vesting of options that would have been exercisable during the 24 months following the termination date and the continuation of specified benefits for the four years following the termination date. The table below reflects the estimated amount of payments and other benefits payable under Mr. Miller's employment agreement on a termination due to disability (other than any accrued and unpaid salary and vacation pay), assuming that the termination occurred on December 29, 2013 and based upon our most recent closing stock price as of that date of \$19.19.

**Table Showing Benefits on a Termination Due to Disability**

| Name             | Pro Rated Cash Bonus | Cash Severance | Value of Option Acceleration | Value of Medical Continuation | Value of Perquisites(1) | Total        |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Steven G. Miller | \$ 238,683           | \$ 1,410,000   | 0                            | \$ 45,505                     | \$ 80,188               | \$ 1,774,376 |

(1) The amount in the Value of Perquisites column includes the value attributable to personal use of a Company-provided automobile in the annual amount of \$20,047 for four years.

If Mr. Miller terminates the employment agreement for good reason at any time, or for any reason within six months of a change in control, or if the Company terminates the employment agreement without cause at any time, in addition to the salary, vacation pay and pro rated cash bonus discussed above, the employment agreement provides the Company will pay Mr. Miller on the fifth business day following the termination date a lump sum severance payment in an amount equal to three times his annual compensation. For this purpose, Mr. Miller's annual compensation will be deemed to equal the average annual compensation received by Mr. Miller for each of the five years immediately preceding the year in which the termination date falls, as reflected on Mr. Miller's Forms W-2 for those years. In addition, the employment agreement provides for accelerated vesting of all of his options and the continuation of specified benefits for the four years following the termination date. However, the employment agreement provides that payments in connection with the change in control will be reduced to the extent necessary to prevent them from being subject to the Golden Parachute Excise Tax of Internal Revenue Code Section 4999. The table below reflects the estimated amount of payments

and other benefits payable under Mr. Miller's employment agreement on a termination by Mr. Miller for good reason or due to a change in control or a termination by the Company without cause (other than any accrued and unpaid salary and vacation pay), assuming that the termination occurred on December 29, 2013 and based upon our most recent closing stock price as of that date of \$19.19.

**Table Showing Benefits on a Termination by the Employee for Good Reason or Due to a Change in Control or a Termination by the Company Without Cause**

| Name                | Pro Rated Cash Bonus | Cash Severance | Value of Option Acceleration | Value of Medical Continuation | Value of Perquisites(1) | Total        |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Steven G. Miller(2) | \$ 238,683           | \$ 2,521,947   | 0                            | \$ 45,505                     | \$ 80,188               | \$ 2,886,323 |

(1) The amount in the Value of Perquisites column includes the value attributable to personal use of a Company-provided automobile in the annual amount of \$20,047 for four years.

(2) Payments in connection with a change in control may be less than those shown in this table, since Mr. Miller's employment agreement provides such payments will be reduced to the extent necessary to prevent them from being subject to the Golden Parachute Excise Tax of Internal Revenue Code Section 4999.

If Mr. Miller terminates the employment agreement without good reason or the Company terminates the employment agreement for cause, Mr. Miller is entitled to receive the salary, vacation pay and pro rated cash bonus discussed above.

The employment of our Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Barry D. Emerson, with us is governed by an employment offer letter dated August 16, 2005, which is referred to as the Offer Letter. The Offer Letter provided for Mr. Emerson to receive a starting annual base salary of \$275,000 and a minimum starting annual bonus of \$125,000. As a result of periodic annual increases, Mr. Emerson's annual base salary has since been increased to \$353,500. His annual incentive bonuses have been set in the discretion of the Compensation Committee from the overall bonus pool. Pursuant to the Offer Letter, Mr. Emerson received an initial stock option grant and has been and continues to be eligible for additional stock option grants comparable to those provided to other senior vice presidents of the Company. In addition, the Offer Letter provides that Mr. Emerson receives use of a Company automobile.

Pursuant to the Offer Letter, we and Mr. Emerson have entered into a severance agreement that provides that his employment is at will but that, if we terminate his employment other than for cause (as defined in the severance agreement), Mr. Emerson will receive a severance package which will include one year's base salary and one year's health coverage for him and his family. Payment of the severance benefit is conditioned upon the execution of a release by Mr. Emerson of all claims he may have against us. The table below reflects the estimated amount of payments and other benefits payable under Mr. Emerson's severance agreement, assuming that the termination occurred on December 29, 2013.

**Table Showing Benefits on a Termination Other than for Cause**

| Name             | Cash Severance | Value of Medical Continuation | Total      |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Barry D. Emerson | \$ 345,000     | \$ 16,815                     | \$ 361,815 |

#### Compensation of Directors

Our Board of Directors sets directors' compensation based on its review of publicly-available information about what other companies pay their directors.

Directors who are also employees of the Company are compensated as officers of the Company and receive no additional compensation for serving as directors.

Effective April 2007, non-employee directors receive an annual retainer of \$30,000 for service on the Board of Directors, plus \$2,500 for attendance at each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors or each committee meeting not otherwise held on the day of a board meeting or other committee meeting, \$1,000 for attendance at each committee meeting held on the day of a board meeting or other committee meeting, and \$1,000 for attendance by telephone at any specially called telephonic board meeting or committee meeting. The Chairs of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee receive additional annual retainers of \$10,000, \$7,500 and \$5,000, respectively. In addition, the Company has adopted a policy pursuant to which each non-employee director is initially granted options to purchase 10,000 shares of the Company's common stock and is annually granted additional options to purchase 3,000 shares of such stock and annually granted 3,000 restricted shares of the Company's common stock (or, at such non-employee director's election, 3,000 restricted stock units). The options are to have an exercise price equal to the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant, and the options, restricted shares and restricted stock units vest in four equal annual installments (although the stock underlying such restricted stock units will not become deliverable until certain additional events). Annual grants have been and will be made on the date of the Company's annual meeting of stockholders. Directors are also reimbursed for all out-of-pocket expenses incurred in attending such meetings.

### Director Compensation for Fiscal 2013

| Name               | Fees<br>Earned<br>or Paid<br>in Cash<br>(\$) | Stock<br>Awards<br>\$(1)(3) | Option<br>Awards<br>\$(2)(3) | Non-Equity<br>Incentive<br>Plan<br>Compensation<br>(\$) | Change<br>in<br>Pension<br>Value<br>and<br>Nonqualified<br>Deferred<br>Compensation<br>Earnings<br>(\$) | All Other<br>Compensation<br>(\$) | Total<br>(\$) |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Sandra N. Bane     | \$ 54,984                                    | \$ 60,870                   | \$ 28,635                    | 0   | 0   | 0                                 | \$ 144,489    |
| G. Michael Brown   | \$ 52,016                                    | \$ 60,870                   | \$ 28,635                    | 0   | 0   | 0                                 | \$ 141,521    |
| Dominic P. DeMarco | \$ 49,000                                    | \$ 60,870                   | \$ 28,635                    | 0   | 0   | 0                                 | \$ 138,505    |
| Jennifer H. Dunbar | \$ 60,000                                    | \$ 60,870                   | \$ 28,635                    | 0   | 0   | 0                                 | \$ 149,505    |
| Van B. Honeycutt   | \$ 28,432                                    | \$ 60,870                   | \$ 93,768                    | 0   | 0   | 0                                 | \$ 183,070    |
| David R. Jessick   | \$ 65,000                                    | \$ 60,870                   | \$ 28,635                    | 0   | 0   | 0                                 | \$ 154,505    |

- (1) The dollar value of Stock Awards (including restricted stock and restricted stock units) shown represents the aggregate grant date fair value calculated in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, or FASB ASC Topic 718, on the basis of the Company's common stock price on the grant dates and without any adjustment for estimated forfeitures. Each Stock Award entitles the director to receive one share of our common stock at the time of vesting without the payment of an exercise price or other cash consideration. The amounts reported in the Stock Awards column do not necessarily reflect the dollar amounts of compensation actually realized or that may be realized. The actual value that a director will realize on each Stock Award will depend on the price per share of our common stock at the time shares underlying the Stock Awards are sold.
- (2) The dollar value of Option Awards shown represents the aggregate grant date fair value calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, on the basis of the fair value of the option on the grant dates and without any adjustment for estimated forfeitures. Each Option Award entitles the director to purchase one share of our common stock at the time of vesting upon payment of the applicable exercise price. The amounts reported in the Option Awards column do not necessarily reflect the dollar amounts of compensation actually realized or that may be realized. The actual value, if any, that a director may realize with respect to each option will depend on the excess of the stock price over the exercise price on the date the option is exercised and the shares underlying such option are sold.
- (3) Prior to 2008, our non-employee directors received annual stock option awards and, commencing in 2008, a combination of stock option and restricted stock awards. As of 2011, each non-employee director could elect to receive restricted stock units in lieu of such restricted stock awards. The following table shows, as of

December 29, 2013, the total number of shares of our common stock subject to unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units, and vested and unvested stock option awards outstanding for each non-employee director:

| <b>Director</b>    | <b>Total Unvested<br/>Restricted Stock<br/>and Restricted<br/>Stock Unit Awards<br/>Outstanding</b> | <b>Total Option<br/>Awards<br/>Outstanding</b> |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Sandra N. Bane     | 7,737   | 44,000   |
| G. Michael Brown   | 7,500   | 36,500   |
| Dominic P. DeMarco | 5,368   | 16,000   |
| Jennifer H. Dunbar | 7,737   | 40,300   |
| Van B. Honeycutt   | 3,000   | 13,000   |
| David R. Jessick   | 7,737   | 39,000   |

#### **Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance**

Based solely upon review of copies of Section 16(a) reports furnished to the Company during or with respect to the year ended December 29, 2013, the Company believes that all Section 16(a) reporting requirements were timely met during fiscal 2013, except that (i) the March 14, 2013 grants of certain restricted shares to, and the forfeitures of certain restricted shares as income tax withholding by, Messrs Clark, Emerson, Fraley, Johnson, Meade, Miller and Starr were reported late due to information being unavailable as of the required filing date, and (ii) the July 16, 2013 sale of shares by Mr. Miller was reported late due to an administrative error.

#### **TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS, PROMOTERS AND CERTAIN CONTROL PERSONS**

##### **Procedures**

Our Audit Committee's written charter requires that the Audit Committee review on an ongoing basis and approve or disapprove all related party transactions that are required to be disclosed by Item 404 of Regulation S-K. The written Audit Committee Meeting Planner prepared and approved by the Audit Committee provides that this will occur annually at the first quarterly Audit Committee meeting each year and at such other times as needed. During each such review, the Company's General Counsel discusses the requirements of Item 404 of Regulation S-K and reports on all related party transactions or arrangements that have been determined to require review, following which the Audit Committee formally approves or disapproves each such transaction or arrangement. The items described below were approved by the Audit Committee following this policy and procedure, except for those payments or transactions consummated pursuant to agreements that were entered into prior to our initial public offering and the establishment of the Audit Committee, which occurred in 2002.

The Company has no formal policy regarding the standards to be applied by the Audit Committee in determining whether to approve or disapprove related party transactions. However, in determining whether a proposed related party transaction is in the best interests of the Company and whether to approve or disapprove the transaction, our Audit Committee has generally considered, among other factors, the terms that it believed would be available to the Company in an arms-length transaction with an unrelated third party. In particular, the Audit Committee has historically required that (i) the terms of the relevant transaction be, in the opinion of the Audit Committee, no less favorable to the Company than those likely to be available from an unaffiliated third party and (ii) the Company would be expected to obtain a comparable or more favorable result than it would in an arms-length transaction with an unrelated third party. In applying this standard, the Audit Committee also considers whether the transaction would be conducted in the same manner as it would be for such an unrelated third party. Other factors typically considered by the Audit Committee in making such determination include the benefit of the transaction to the Company (including the cost, nature, quantity and quality of the goods or services involved), and the terms, conditions and circumstances of the transaction. In making such a determination, the Audit Committee relies on information provided to it by Company management as well as the general knowledge and experience of Audit Committee members.

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**Fiscal 2013 Transactions**

G. Michael Brown is a director of the Company and a partner of the law firm of Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP. From time to time, the Company retains Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP to handle various litigation matters. The Company received services from the law firm of Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP amounting to \$0.7 million in fiscal year 2013, and amounts due to Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP totaled \$142,000 as of December 29, 2013.

Prior to his death in fiscal 2008, the Company had an employment agreement with Robert W. Miller ( Mr. Miller ), co-founder of the Company and the father of Steven G. Miller, Chairman of the Board, President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company. The employment agreement provided for Mr. Miller to receive an annual base salary of \$350,000. The employment agreement further provided that, following his death, the Company will pay his surviving wife \$350,000 per year and provide her specified benefits for the remainder of her life. During fiscal 2013, the Company made a payment of \$350,000 to Mr. Miller's wife. The Company recognized expense of \$0.3 million in fiscal 2013 to provide for a liability for the future obligations under this agreement. Based upon actuarial valuation estimates related to this agreement, the Company recorded a liability of \$1.5 million as of December 29, 2013.

Bradley A. Johnson, the son of Richard A. Johnson, the Company's Executive Vice President, is employed by the Company as a Division Merchandise Manager. For his services in 2013, Bradley A. Johnson earned cash compensation (salary and bonus) of \$176,327, received employee benefits customary for similarly-situated Company employees, and was awarded 1,000 restricted shares of Company common stock (vesting over 4 years). The salary and bonus received by Bradley A. Johnson is consistent with those paid to other Company employees with similar responsibilities.

In addition to the indemnification provisions contained in the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Company has indemnification agreements with each of its directors and executive officers. These agreements, among other things, provide for indemnification of the Company's directors and executive officers for expenses, judgments, fines and settlement amounts (collectively, Liabilities ) incurred by any such person in any action or proceeding arising out of such person's services as a director or executive officer or at the Company's request, if the applicable director or executive officer acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Company. These agreements also require the Company to advance expenses incurred by any of its directors or executive officers in connection with any proceeding against such individual with respect to which such individual may be entitled to indemnification by the Company. In fiscal 2013, the Company did not advance any amounts to directors and executive officers under this provision.

**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table sets forth information regarding beneficial ownership of the Company's common stock as of April 22, 2014 by:

each of the Named Executive Officers in the Summary Compensation Table on page 21;

each of the Company's directors;

each person, or group of affiliated persons, who is known by the Company to beneficially own more than 5% the Company's common stock; and

all current directors and executive officers as a group.

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Except as otherwise indicated in the footnotes below, each beneficial owner has the sole power to vote and to dispose of all shares held by that holder. Percentage ownership is based on 22,400,122 shares of common stock outstanding as of April 22, 2014.

| Name (1)   | Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock |                 |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | Shares                               | Percent (%) (2) |
| Steven G. Miller.  | 1,230,588 (3)                        | 5.48            |
| Sandra N. Bane   | 48,500 (4)                           | *               |
| G. Michael Brown   | 39,950 (5)                           | *               |
| Dominic DeMarco  | 7,250 (6)                            | *               |
| Jennifer H. Dunbar   | 63,943 (7)                           | *               |
| Van B. Honeycutt   | 6,250 (8)                            | *               |
| David R. Jessick   | 43,500 (9)                           | *               |
| Boyd O. Clark  | 45,674 (10)                          | *               |
| Barry D. Emerson   | 103,710 (11)                         | *               |
| Richard A. Johnson   | 107,460 (12)                         | *               |
| Gary S. Meade  | 31,513 (13)                          | *               |
| All directors and executive officers as a group (13 persons) | 1,771,571 (14)                       | 7.79            |
| <b>5% Stockholders</b>                                       |                                      |                 |
| BlackRock, Inc. (15)   | 2,194,105                            | 9.80            |
| Stadium Capital Management, LLC (16)                         | 2,513,220                            | 11.22           |

\* Indicates less than 1%.

To the Company's knowledge, none of the shares held by directors and executive officers have been pledged as security for any obligation.

- (1) The address for each stockholder is 2525 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California 90245, except as otherwise indicated below.
- (2) Shares of common stock subject to options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014 are deemed to be outstanding and beneficially owned by the person holding such options or who otherwise has beneficial ownership thereof for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of such person, but are not deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person.
- (3) Includes 741,885 shares of common stock held by Steven G. Miller and Jacquelyne G. Miller, as trustees of the Steven G. Miller and Jacquelyne G. Miller Trust dated September 13, 1990, 374,232 shares of common stock held by Robert W. and Florence Miller Family Partners, L.P., of which Steven G. Miller is a limited partner and shares dispositive power with respect to the shares pursuant to a trading authorization dated November 12, 2004 executed by Robert W. Miller and Florence H. Miller, as general partners, and 60,000 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014. Mr. Miller disclaims beneficial ownership in the shares owned by Robert W. and Florence Miller Family Partners, L.P. except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein. Jacquelyne G. Miller shares beneficial ownership of the 741,885 shares of common stock held by the Steven G. Miller and Jacquelyne G. Miller Trust dated September 13, 1990.
- (4) Includes 39,500 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (5) Includes 32,000 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.

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- (6) Includes 7,250 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014. Excludes shares beneficially held by Stadium Capital Management, LLC and its affiliated funds, as to which Mr. DeMarco disclaims beneficial ownership.

- (7) Includes 19,143 shares of common stock held by Jennifer H. Dunbar, Trustee of the Lilac II Trust dated June 28, 2000 and 35,800 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (8) Includes 3,250 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (9) Includes 34,500 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (10) Includes 5,000 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (11) Includes 125 shares of common stock held by family members residing with Mr. Emerson and 84,011 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (12) Includes 12,000 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (13) Includes 12,000 shares which may be acquired upon the exercise of options exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (14) Includes 338,811 shares which the directors and executive officers may be deemed to have beneficial ownership with respect to options to purchase the Company's common stock exercisable within 60 days of April 22, 2014.
- (15) The address for BlackRock, Inc. is 40 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10022, as reported in the Schedule 13G/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 31, 2014 by the reporting person. The reporting person's holdings are based upon the holdings disclosed in the Schedule 13G/A, which also states that the reporting person has sole voting power over 2,149,989 of the 2,194,105 shares beneficially held as of that date.
- (16) The address for Stadium Capital Management, LLC is 199 Elm Street, New Canaan, CT 06840, as reported in the Schedule 13D filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 22, 2011, and amended on October 13, 2011, October 26, 2011, May 13, 2013 and August 12, 2013 (as so amended, the Schedule 13D). According to the Schedule 13D, Stadium Capital Management, LLC is an investment adviser whose clients, including Stadium Capital Partners, L.P., have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the shares reported above. Stadium Capital Partners, L.P. has such a right with respect to 2,286,447 of the 2,513,220 shares reported above. Alexander M. Seaver and Bradley R. Kent are the managing members of Stadium Capital Management, LLC, and Stadium Capital Management, LLC is the general partner of Stadium Capital Partners, L.P. The reporting person's holdings are based upon the holdings disclosed in Forms 4 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 29, 2013.



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**EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

The following table sets forth information regarding the Company's equity compensation plans as of December 29, 2013. For a description of the material features of these plans, see Executive and Director Compensation and Related Matters - Stock Options and Equity Compensation.

| <b>Plan category</b>                                       | <b>Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights</b> | <b>Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights</b> | <b>Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in the first column)</b> |
|--|--|--|--|
| Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (1) | 989,130  | \$ 17.83   | 1,115,173  |
| Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders |  |  |  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>989,130</b>   | <b>\$ 17.83</b>  | <b>1,115,173</b>   |

- (1) The Company has stock options outstanding under two equity compensation plans: the 2002 Stock Incentive Plan and the Amended and Restated 2007 Equity and Performance Incentive Plan. However, except as to outstanding awards, the 2002 Stock Incentive Plan was terminated immediately after the Company's 2007 annual meeting of stockholders. Accordingly, no additional options may be granted under that plan. Shares subject to options under the 2002 Stock Incentive Plan that are forfeited or cancelled, or otherwise expire without issuance of the underlying shares, shall become available for issuance under the Amended and Restated 2007 Equity and Performance Incentive Plan.

**PROPOSAL 2:**

**ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (Item No. 2 on Proxy Card)**

We are again providing stockholders an advisory vote to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers, also known as a say-on-pay proposal. The Board has determined to hold these votes annually. The advisory vote is a non-binding vote on the compensation of our Named Executive Officers as described in this Proxy Statement in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section, the tabular disclosure regarding such compensation and the Company's accompanying narrative disclosure.

At our 2013 Annual Meeting, more than 84% of the votes cast on our say-on-pay proposal were voted in favor of the proposal. Our Compensation Committee considered the result of this vote and concluded that our pay for performance philosophy is supported by shareholders and that no specific changes to its executive compensation program were warranted.

As noted above under Executive and Director Compensation and Related Matters Compensation Discussion and Analysis, our executive compensation program utilizes elements including base salary, annual bonus awards, long term stock-based incentive awards, and health and other benefits to achieve the following goals:

attracting, motivating and rewarding highly talented, qualified and experienced executive officers responsible for our success;

encouraging retention of top executives who may have attractive opportunities at other companies;

providing rewards for successful performance;

aligning annual short term incentive rewards with actual Company operating performance;

using longer-term stock-based incentive awards, which vest over time, to align executive officers' interests with those of the stockholders; and

providing total compensation to each executive officer that is internally equitable and reasonable in light of the executive officer's level of experience and qualifications as well as general market practice, including compensation levels of certain peer companies.

The Board and the Compensation Committee believe that our compensation programs, which align pay with performance and which have been relatively stable over time, have accomplished the foregoing goals.

We strongly encourage shareholders to review this Proxy Statement, and in particular the information contained in the Executive and Director Compensation and Related Matters section, including the tabular and narrative disclosure, for a more detailed discussion of our compensation philosophy, objectives and programs.

In summary, compensation actions in 2013 for our Named Executive Officers included:

Base salaries (determined in March 2013) were increased by 2.7% (after having been frozen the two prior years) as a result of our improved financial performance in 2012;

Annual bonuses for fiscal 2013 (determined in March 2014) were increased over 2012 as a result of our year over year increase in EBITDA. Our EBITDA increased by 51%, the amount of total bonuses paid to employees increased by 49%, and the bonuses paid to the Named Executive Officers as a group increased by 50%; and

The value of equity awards for Named Executive Officers as a group increased by 28%. These awards were granted in March 2013, and the increase in value was attributable to the increase in our stock price from March 2012 to March 2013, despite a reduction in the number of shares granted. As in the past, these equity awards vest over a four-year time frame for retention purposes and to further align management and stockholder interests.

**Required Vote**

The adoption of the resolution set forth below approving the Company's compensation of its Named Executive Officers will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast FOR or AGAINST with respect to this proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote on this proposal.

**Recommendation of the Board of Directors**

We believe that our compensation program for executive officers is conservative relative to our peers. We also believe this program will help to drive improved Company performance even if economic conditions remain challenging.

Accordingly,

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY RESOLUTION:**

RESOLVED, that the shareholders approve the compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers as described in the Executive and Director Compensation and Related Matters section of this Proxy Statement, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis subsection thereof and the tabular and narrative disclosures therein required by Item 402 of SEC Regulation S-K.

**PROPOSAL 3****RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS****(Item No. 3 on Proxy Card)**

The Audit Committee has appointed Deloitte & Touche LLP to audit the Company's consolidated financial statements for the 2014 fiscal year and to audit the Company's effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 28, 2014 (i.e., the last day of the Company's 2014 fiscal year). This appointment is being presented to stockholders for ratification at the Annual Meeting. Although stockholder ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Company's independent auditors is not required by the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws or otherwise by law, the Board of Directors, at the request of the Audit Committee, has elected to seek this ratification. If the stockholders fail to ratify the selection, the Audit Committee will reconsider whether to retain Deloitte & Touche LLP. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee in its discretion may direct the appointment of a different independent audit firm at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders.

Representatives of Deloitte & Touche LLP are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting. They will have an opportunity to make statements if they desire and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

**Required Vote**

The action of the Audit Committee in appointing of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Company's independent auditors for the 2014 fiscal year will be ratified by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast FOR or AGAINST with respect to this proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote on this proposal.

**Recommendation of the Board of Directors**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT AUDITORS FOR THE 2014 FISCAL YEAR.**

**Fees Billed by Deloitte & Touche LLP**

The aggregate fees billed for professional services provided by Deloitte & Touche LLP in fiscal years 2013 and 2012 were:

| <b>Type of Fees</b> | <b>Fiscal 2013</b> | <b>Fiscal 2012</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Audit Fees          | \$ 909,222         | \$ 879,454         |
| Audit-related Fees  |                    |                    |
| Tax Fees            |                    |                    |
| All Other Fees      |                    |                    |
| <b>Total Fees</b>   | <b>\$ 909,222</b>  | <b>\$ 879,454</b>  |

In the above tables, in accordance with the definitions of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Audit Fees are fees paid by the Company to Deloitte & Touche LLP for the audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements included in its Annual Report on Form 10-K and review of the unaudited financial statements included in its quarterly reports on Form 10-Q or for services that are normally provided by the accountant in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements.

Other than Audit Fees, the Company paid no fees for services rendered by Deloitte & Touche LLP during fiscal years 2013 and 2012.

**Audit Committee Pre-approval Policies and Procedures**

The Audit Committee is required under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission promulgated thereunder to pre-approve the auditing and permissible non-audit services

performed by the Company's independent auditor to provide assurance that the provision of those services does not impair the independence of the auditor. The Audit Committee has adopted a pre-approval policy to assist it in carrying out this responsibility.

Under the pre-approval policy, the annual audit services engagement terms and fees are subject to the specific pre-approval of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee will approve, if necessary, any changes in terms, conditions and/or fees resulting from changes in audit scope, the Company's organizational structure or other matters. In addition, if the Audit Committee, after reviewing documentation detailing the specific services to be provided by the independent auditors and having discussions with management, determines that the performance of such services would not impair the independence of the independent auditor, the Audit Committee may also approve (i) audit-related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company's financial statements and that are traditionally performed by the independent auditor, (ii) tax services such as tax compliance, tax planning and tax advice and/or (iii) permissible non-audit services that it believes are routine and recurring services.

All audit services provided by Deloitte & Touche LLP to the Company for the fiscal years 2013 and 2012 were pre-approved in accordance with the Company's pre-approval policies and procedures.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

Management knows of no business which will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting other than as stated in the Notice of Annual Meeting. If, however, other matters are properly brought before the Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the proxyholders to vote the shares represented by the proxies on such matters in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Directors and authority to do so is included in the proxy.

#### **STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS**

In order to be eligible for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement and proxy card for the next annual meeting of the Company's stockholders pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act, stockholder proposals must be received by the Secretary of the Company at its principal executive offices no later than January 1, 2015 if the next annual meeting were held within 30 days of June 5, 2015. In the event that the Company elects to hold its next annual meeting more than 30 days before or after the anniversary of this Annual Meeting, such stockholder proposals would have to be received by the Company a reasonable time before the Company's solicitation is made. Further, in order for the stockholder proposals to be eligible to be brought before the Company's stockholders at the next annual meeting, the stockholder submitting such proposals must also comply with the procedures, including the deadlines, required by the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws. Stockholder nominations of directors are not stockholder proposals within the meaning of Rule 14a-8 and are not eligible for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement. The Company will provide a copy of its Amended and Restated Bylaws to any stockholder of record upon written request.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K**

The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, exclusive of exhibits, including financial statements for fiscal year 2013, was mailed to stockholders with this Proxy Statement and contains financial and other information about the Company.

*The information set forth under Compensation Committee Report, Audit Committee Report and the Company-operated website referenced in the Proxy Statement shall not be deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission or subject to Regulations 14A or 14C or to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Exchange Act and shall not be incorporated by reference in any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing.*

**THE COMPANY WILL PROVIDE WITHOUT CHARGE A COPY OF ITS ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K, INCLUDING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

SCHEDULES, FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013 TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER OF THE COMPANY'S COMMON STOCK AS OF THE RECORD DATE UPON WRITTEN REQUEST TO BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION, 2525 EAST EL SEGUNDO BOULEVARD, EL SEGUNDO CALIFORNIA, 90245, ATTENTION: SECRETARY.

**Important Notice Regarding Availability of Proxy Materials**

**for the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be Held on June 5, 2014**

**The Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement, and the Annual Report to Shareholders, are available to stockholders at <http://www.edocumentview.com/BGFV>.**

**PROXY BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**

**PROXY FOR 2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation (the Company ) and the accompanying Proxy Statement relating to the above-referenced Annual Meeting, and hereby appoints Steven G. Miller, Barry D. Emerson and Gary S. Meade, or any of them, with full power of substitution and resubstitution in each, as attorneys and proxies of the undersigned.

Said proxies are hereby given authority to vote all shares of common stock of the Company which the undersigned may be entitled to vote at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company and at any and all adjournments or postponements thereof on behalf of the undersigned on the matters set forth on the reverse side hereof and in the manner designated thereon.

**THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY, AND WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED, THE SHARES REPRESENTED HEREBY WILL BE VOTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS PROXY. IF NO DIRECTION IS MADE, THE PROXIES ARE AUTHORIZED TO VOTE: FOR THE ELECTION OF THE ABOVE-LISTED NOMINEES OR SUCH SUBSTITUTE NOMINEE(S) FOR DIRECTORS AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY SHALL SELECT; FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE COMPENSATION OF THE COMPANY S NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS; AND FOR THE RATIFICATION OF DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP AS THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014. THIS PROXY ALSO CONFERS DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY ON THE PROXIES TO VOTE AS TO ANY OTHER MATTER THAT IS PROPERLY BROUGHT BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DID NOT HAVE NOTICE OF PRIOR TO MARCH 18, 2014.**

PLEASE DATE, SIGN AND RETURN THIS PROXY CARD PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

(See reverse side)



Please mark votes as in this example: [X]

FOLD AND DETACH HERE

**A. Proposals** The Board of Directors recommends a vote **FOR** all the nominees listed and **FOR** Proposals 2 and 3.

**1. Election of Two Class C Directors:**

|                       |     |          |                     |     |          |
|-----------------------|-----|----------|---------------------|-----|----------|
|                       | For | Withhold |                     | For | Withhold |
| 01 Jennifer H. Dunbar | ..  | ..       | 02 Steven G. Miller | ..  | ..       |

**2. Approval of the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as described in the proxy statement.**

|     |         |         |
|-----|---------|---------|
| For | Against | Abstain |
| ..  | ..      | ..      |

**3. Ratification of Appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as Independent Auditors for Fiscal Year 2014.**

|     |         |         |
|-----|---------|---------|
| For | Against | Abstain |
| ..  | ..      | ..      |

**B Non-Voting Items**

Change of Address Please Print new address below

**C. Authorized Signatures** This section must be completed for your vote to be counted. Date and Sign Below

Note: Please date and sign exactly as your name(s) appear on this proxy card. If shares are registered in more than one name, all such persons should sign. A corporation should sign in its full corporate name by a duly authorized officer, stating his or her title. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, trustee or guardian, please sign in your official capacity and give your full title as such. If a partnership, please sign in the partnership name by an authorized person.

Date (mm/dd/yyyy) Please print date below      Signature 1 Please keep signature within the box.      Signature 2 Please keep signature within the box.

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