

# **GORDMANS STORES, INC.**

# **FORM DEF 14A**

(Proxy Statement (definitive))

# Filed 04/27/16 for the Period Ending 06/07/16

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**OMAHA, NE 68106** 

Telephone 402-691-4000

CIK 0001490636

Symbol GMAN

SIC Code 5600 - Retail-Apparel & Accessory Stores

Industry Retail (Department & Discount)

Sector Services

Fiscal Year 01/28



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

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

		e Registrant ☑ Party other than the Registrant □
Chec	ck the a	appropriate box: Preliminary Proxy Statement.
		Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)).
	$\square$	Definitive Proxy Statement.
		Definitive Additional Materials.
		Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12.
		Gordmans Stores, Inc. (Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)
		(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)
Payr ☑		Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box): ee required.
		Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
	(1)	Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
	(2)	Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
	(3)	Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
	(4)	Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
	(5)	Total fee paid:
	Fee p	paid previously with preliminary materials.
		k box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid ously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
	(1)	Amount Previously Paid:
	(2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
	(3)	Filing Party:
	(4)	Date Filed:



April 27, 2016

#### Dear Stockholders:

On behalf of Gordmans Stores, Inc., it is my pleasure to invite you to the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Gordmans Stores, Inc., to be held at 300 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time.

Information about the meeting and the various matters on which the stockholders will vote is included in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement for Annual Meeting of Stockholders which follows. Also included is a proxy card and postage-paid return envelope. Please sign, date and mail the enclosed proxy card in the return envelope provided, as promptly as possible, whether or not you plan to attend the meeting. A copy of Gordmans Stores, Inc.'s 2015 Annual Report is also enclosed for your review.

We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting.

Sincerely,

Andrew T. Hall

Andrew Yeltere

President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary



#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS To Be Held on June 7, 2016

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of Gordmans Stores, Inc. ("Gordmans" or the "Company") will be held at 300 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time. At the Annual Meeting, our stockholders will be asked to:

- 1. Elect the directors named in the accompanying Proxy Statement;
- Ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending January 28, 2017; and
- 3. Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be Held on June 7, 2016: This Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement and the 2015 Annual Report are available at http://investor.gordmans.com/financials.cfm.

Whether or not you expect to be present at the meeting, please vote your shares by following the instructions on the enclosed proxy card. If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other recordholder, their voting procedures should be described on the voting form they send to you. Any person voting by proxy has the power to revoke it at any time prior to its exercise at the meeting in accordance with the procedures described in the accompanying Proxy Statement.

#### IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

Please note that space limitations make it necessary to limit attendance to stockholders and one guest. Admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration and seating will begin at 10:45 a.m. Central Daylight Time. Each stockholder may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Stockholders holding stock in brokerage accounts ("street name" holders) will need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement reflecting stock ownership as of the close of business on April 21, 2016. Cameras (including cellular phones with photographic capabilities), recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors

Judian Viltere

Andrew T. Hall

President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary

Omaha, Nebraska April 27, 2016

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#### 1926 South 67 th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68106

## PROXY STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD JUNE 7, 2016

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Gordmans Stores, Inc. from the holders of shares of common stock of Gordmans Stores, Inc. to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") to be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time, at 300 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

As used in this Proxy Statement, the terms "we," "our," "us," "Gordmans," or the "Company" refer to Gordmans Stores, Inc.

#### ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

#### Why did I receive these materials?

Our Board is soliciting proxies for the Annual Meeting. You are receiving a Proxy Statement because you owned shares of our common stock at the close of business on April 21, 2016, and that entitles you to vote at the meeting. By use of a proxy, you can vote whether or not you attend the meeting. This Proxy Statement describes the matters on which we would like you to vote and provides information on those matters so that you can make an informed decision.

The Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders, a proxy card, this Proxy Statement and the 2015 Annual Report are being mailed to stockholders on or about May 3, 2016.

#### What is the purpose of the Annual Meeting?

At the Annual Meeting, stockholders will be asked to act upon the matters outlined in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. In addition, management will report on our performance during the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016 ("fiscal year 2015") and respond to questions from stockholders.

#### Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 21, 2016, the record date for the Annual Meeting (the "Record Date"), are entitled to receive notice of and to participate in the Annual Meeting. If you were a stockholder of record on that date, you will be entitled to vote all of the shares that you held on that date at the Annual Meeting or at any postponements or adjournments of the meeting.

If, as of the Record Date, your shares were held in an account with a brokerage firm, bank or other nominee, then you are the beneficial owner of the shares held in street name. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your nominee on how to vote the shares held in your account, and your nominee will provide voting instructions for you to use in directing it on how to vote your shares. However, the organization that holds your shares is considered the stockholder of record for purposes of voting at the meeting. Because you are not the stockholder

of record, you may not vote your shares at the meeting unless you request and obtain a valid proxy from the organization that holds your shares giving you the right to vote the shares at the meeting.

#### Who can attend the meeting?

All of our common stockholders as of the Record Date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the Annual Meeting, and each may be accompanied by one guest. Since seating is limited, admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will begin at 10:45 a.m. Central Daylight Time. If you attend, please note that you may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Cameras (including cellular phones with photographic capabilities), recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

Please also note that if you hold your shares in "street name" (that is, through a brokerage firm, bank or other nominee), you will need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement reflecting your stock ownership as of the Record Date and check in at the registration desk at the meeting.

#### How many votes do I have?

You will be entitled to one vote for each outstanding share of our common stock you owned as of the Record Date on each matter considered at the meeting. As of the Record Date, there were 19,653,993 shares of our common stock outstanding and eligible to vote. There is no cumulative voting.

#### What constitutes a quorum and how will votes be counted?

The presence at the Annual Meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote will constitute a quorum for purposes of the Annual Meeting, thereby permitting the Company to conduct its business at the Annual Meeting. As of the Record Date, 19,653,993 shares of our common stock, representing the same number of votes, were outstanding. Thus, the presence of the holders of common stock representing at least 9,826,997 votes will be required to establish a quorum.

Proxies received but marked as abstentions and broker non-votes will be included in the calculation of the number of votes considered to be present at the Annual Meeting for purposes of establishing a quorum, but will not be deemed a vote cast with respect to the "non-discretionary" matters to be acted upon at the meeting. A "broker non-vote" occurs when a broker, bank or other nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because that holder does not have discretionary voting power for that particular item and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. Brokers will not be permitted to vote on your behalf with respect to the "non-discretionary" proposals set forth in the Proxy Statement if you do not provide voting instructions on such matters. The ratification of Grant Thornton LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2016 is considered to be a discretionary matter and your brokerage firm will be able to vote on that item even if it does not receive instructions from you, so long as it holds your shares in its name. Your brokerage firm will not be permitted to vote on your behalf with respect to "non-discretionary" proposals set forth in the Proxy Statement if it does not receive instructions from you.

In tabulating the voting results, abstentions generally have the effect of a negative vote. Broker non-votes have no effect on the voting results since, by definition, they are not entitled to be cast on a matter. With regard to the election of directors, since directors are elected by a plurality, both abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect.

#### How do I vote?

If you are a registered stockholder (that is, if you own common stock in your own name and not through a broker, bank or other nominee that holds common stock for your account in a "street name" capacity), you can vote either *in person* at the Annual Meeting or *by proxy* without attending the Annual Meeting. You may vote by proxy by using the enclosed proxy card. When you return a proxy card that is properly signed and completed, the

shares of common stock represented by your proxy will be voted as you specify on the proxy card. If you attend the Annual Meeting in person, you may vote at the meeting and your proxy (if you previously returned one) will not be counted.

If you hold your shares in "street name," you must either direct the bank, broker or other record holder of your shares as to how to vote your shares, or obtain a proxy from the bank, broker or other record holder to vote at the meeting. Please refer to the voter instruction cards used by your bank, broker or other record holder for specific instructions on methods of voting, including by telephone or using the Internet.

Your shares will be voted as you indicate. If you return the proxy card but you do not indicate your voting preferences, then the individuals named on the proxy card will vote your shares in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board and management do not currently intend to present any matters at the Annual Meeting other than those outlined in the notice of the Annual Meeting. Should any other matter requiring a vote of stockholders arise, stockholders returning the proxy card confer upon the individuals named on the proxy card discretionary authority to vote the shares represented by such proxy on any such other matter in accordance with their best judgment.

If you do not vote and you hold your shares in street name, and your broker does not have discretionary power to vote your shares, your shares may constitute "broker non-votes" (as described above) and will not be counted in determining the number of shares necessary for approval of certain proposals. However, shares that constitute broker non-votes will be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum for the meeting. Voting results will be tabulated and certified by the inspector of elections appointed for the meeting.

#### Can I change or revoke my vote after I vote or return my proxy card?

Yes. If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke or change your vote at any time before the proxy is exercised by filing with our corporate Secretary a notice of revocation or another proxy bearing a later date or by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. For shares you hold beneficially in "street name," you may change your vote by submitting new voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee or, if you have obtained a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other nominee giving you the right to vote your shares, by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. In either case, the powers of the proxy holders will be suspended if you attend the Annual Meeting in person and so request, although attendance at the meeting will not by itself revoke a previously granted proxy.

#### How are we soliciting this proxy and who is bearing the costs of this solicitation?

We are soliciting this proxy on behalf of the Board by mail and we will pay all expenses associated with this solicitation. In addition to mailing these proxy materials, certain of our officers and other associates may, without compensation other than their regular compensation as an officer or associate, solicit proxies by further mailing or personal conversations, or by telephone, facsimile or other electronic means. We may engage the services of a proxy solicitor to aid in the solicitation of proxies and to verify records relating to the solicitation. All costs of such solicitation of proxies would be borne by us. We anticipate that should we retain the services of a proxy solicitor, that firm would receive customary fees for those services, which would not be significant. We will also, upon request, reimburse brokers and other persons holding stock in their names, or in the names of nominees, for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding proxy materials to the beneficial owners of our common stock and for obtaining proxies.

#### What are the Board's recommendations?

Unless you give other instructions on your proxy card, the persons named as proxy holders on the proxy card will vote in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board's recommendation is set forth together with the description of each item in this Proxy Statement. In summary, the Board recommends a vote FOR each of the proposals.

#### Will stockholders be asked to vote on any other matters?

Our Amended and Restated Bylaws (our "Bylaws") require that we receive advance notice of any proposal to be brought before the Annual Meeting by our stockholders, and we have not received notice of any such proposals. If any other matters properly come before the Annual Meeting, the persons named as proxies for stockholders will vote on those matters in the manner they consider appropriate.

#### What vote is required to approve each item?

Election of Directors (Proposal No. 1). Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting, which means that the three nominees who receive the highest number of properly executed votes will be elected as directors, even if those nominees do not receive a majority of the votes cast. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each of the director nominees. You may vote "FOR" all or some of the nominees or you may "WITHHOLD" your vote for some or all of the nominees. You may not cumulate your votes for the election of directors. A properly executed proxy marked "WITHHOLD" with respect to the election of one or more directors will not be voted with respect to the director or directors indicated, although it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum. A vote to "WITHHOLD" will have no effect on the outcome.

Ratification of the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP (Proposal No. 2). Stockholders may vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the ratification of the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2016, or may abstain from voting. Approval of Proposal No. 2 requires the affirmative vote of the majority of shares present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

A properly executed proxy marked "abstain" will not be voted, although it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum. Accordingly, an abstention will have the effect of a negative vote.

#### What should I do if I receive more than one set of voting materials?

You may receive more than one set of voting materials, including multiple copies of this Proxy Statement and multiple proxy cards. For example, if you hold your shares in more than one brokerage account, you may receive a separate voting instruction card for each brokerage account in which you hold shares. If you are a stockholder of record and your shares are registered in more than one name, you will receive more than one proxy card. Please vote your shares applicable to each proxy card and voting instruction card that you receive.

#### Where can I find the voting results of the Annual Meeting?

The preliminary voting results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. The final results will be tallied by the inspector of elections and filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") in a current report on Form 8-K within four business days of the Annual Meeting.

#### How may I obtain a copy of Gordmans' Bylaws provisions regarding stockholder proposals and director nominations?

You may contact the Secretary at our principal executive offices for a copy of the relevant Bylaws provisions regarding the requirements for making stockholder proposals and nominating director candidates. The Bylaws have also been filed with the SEC as an exhibit to Amendment No. 5 of our Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on August 3, 2010.

#### How may I view a list of Gordmans' stockholders?

A list of our stockholders entitled to attend and vote at the Annual Meeting will be available for viewing during normal business hours during the ten days preceding the date of the Annual Meeting at our offices located at:

1926 South 67 th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68106

The list will also be available for viewing at the Annual Meeting. You must be a stockholder of Gordmans and present valid identification to view the list.

#### PROPOSAL NO. 1—ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Board consists of eight directors and is divided into three classes as follows: three directors are designated as Class II directors, two directors are designated as Class III directors and three directors are designated as Class III directors. The current term of office of our Class III directors expires at the Annual Meeting, while the term for Class I directors expires at the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders and the term for Class II directors expires at the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders. Upon recommendation by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board, the Board has nominated the following three persons to serve as Class III directors for a term beginning at the 2016 Annual Meeting and ending at the 2019 annual meeting of stockholders: T. Scott King, Casey C. Lanza, and Donald V. Roach. Each of the nominees is currently a director and has consented to serve for another term if elected. If any of the nominees become unavailable to serve as a director, the Board may designate a substitute nominee. In that case, the persons named as proxies will vote for the substitute nominee designated by the Board.

Unless proxy cards are otherwise marked, the persons named as proxies will vote all proxies FOR the election of each nominee named in this section. Proxies submitted to us cannot be voted at the Annual Meeting for nominees other than those nominees named in this Proxy Statement.

The name of each nominee for director, their ages as of April 25, 2016, and other information about each nominee are set forth below:

T. Scott King, Chairman. Mr. King, age 64, has been a director of Gordmans since February 2013 and served as Interim President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary from March 2014 until August 2014 when Mr. Hall was appointed as President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary. Mr. King was with Sun Capital Partners, Inc. from 2003 until his retirement in September 2014 (other than a leave of absence while he served as our Interim President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary) and most recently served as a Senior Managing Director. Mr. King has over 30 years of experience in senior finance and operations management, including: Chief Executive Officer and President, Waterlink, Inc., a water treatment equipment retailer, from 1998 to 2002; and President of the Consumer Brands Division at The Sherwin Williams Company from 1977 to 1998. Mr. King also serves as a director for Flex Shopper, Inc., a lease-to-own retailer of consumer goods, since November 2014.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. King possesses particular knowledge and experience in retail merchandising; marketing, accounting and finance, and capital structure; and strategic planning and leadership of complex organizations that strengthen the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

Casey C. Lanza. Mr. Lanza, age 31, has been a director of Gordmans since April 2016. Mr. Lanza, a Vice President at Sun Capital Partners, Inc., has significant experience in mergers and acquisitions transactions in the retail and industrial sectors, including corporate acquisitions and divestitures, strategic rollups, leveraged finance issuances, and public and private equity offerings. Prior to joining Sun Capital Partners in November 2008, Mr. Lanza served as an Analyst for Waste Services Inc.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. Lanza possesses particular knowledge and experience in accounting and corporate finance and corporate strategy development across multiple industries that strengthens the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

**Donald V. Roach.** Mr. Roach, age 58, has been a director of Gordmans since 2008. Mr. Roach has been with Sun Capital Partners, Inc. since 2008 as a Group Chief Financial Officer, other than a leave of absence from August 2014 to April 2015, during which time Mr. Roach served as interim Chief Executive Officer of V&D Group, a Netherlands based department store that is a Sun Capital Partners, Inc. portfolio company, from August 2014 to March 2015 and as interim Chief Operating Officer of V&D Group from March 2015 to April 2015. Mr. Roach has over 30 years of experience in senior finance and operations management, including service in the following positions: Senior Vice President, Operations, The Bombay Company, a home décor retailer, from 2002 to 2008;

Acting Chief Financial Officer of Guess? Inc. from 2001 to 2002; and Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer of eFanShop.com, a start-up internet business, from 2000 to 2001. Mr. Roach also served as director for Real Mex Restaurants, Inc., a large full service Mexican casual dining restaurant chain, from May 2011 to August 2011.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. Roach possesses particular knowledge and experience in retail merchandising and marketing; accounting, finance and capital structure; apparel and consumer goods; and strategic planning and leadership of complex organizations that strengthen the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS VOTE  $\underline{FOR}$  EACH OF THE DIRECTORS LISTED ABOVE.

#### Other Directors Not Standing for Election at this Meeting

Other than the current nominees, the five (5) remaining members of the Board will continue to serve as members of our Board. The name of each director who will continue to serve after the Annual Meeting, their ages as of April 25, 2016, and other information are set forth below:

#### Class I directors:

Andrew T. Hall. Mr. Hall, age 55, joined Gordmans in August 2014 as President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary. Mr. Hall has extensive experience in the retail industry. Prior to joining Gordmans, Mr. Hall served in various capacities with Stage Stores, Inc. from 2006 to 2012, where he most recently served as President and Chief Executive Officer from 2008 to 2012. Prior to Stage Stores, Mr. Hall served in roles of increasing responsibility with several former May Department Stores Company divisions (now part of Macy's), most recently serving as Chairman of the Foley's Store Division from 2003 to 2006. Mr. Hall served on the Board of Directors of Stage Stores from 2008 until 2012.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. Hall possesses particular knowledge and experience in retail merchandising; accounting and finance; and apparel and consumer goods that strengthen the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

Stewart M. Kasen. Mr. Kasen, age 76, has been a director of Gordmans since November 2010. Mr. Kasen has extensive experience in the retail industry. He served as President and Chief Executive Officer of S&K Famous Brands, Inc., a chain of menswear retail stores, from 2002 through his retirement in 2007. Prior to joining S&K, he served as Chief Executive Officer of several retail organizations including Schwarzschilds, a fine jewelry chain, and Best Products Co., Inc., a catalog showroom. Prior to joining Best Products Co., Inc., Mr. Kasen served in various capacities in two divisions of Carter Hawley Hale Stores over a 24 year period, including serving as President and Chief Executive Officer of Emporium-Capwell Co. from 1987 to 1989 and Thalhimers Bros. Co., Inc. from 1984 to 1987. Mr. Kasen currently serves on the Board of Directors of Retail Holdings NV, a Netherland Antilles public company that distributes consumer durable products in selected emerging markets in Asia, as well as Markel Corp., a financial holding company whose principal business is underwriting specialty insurance products. He has also served on a number of public boards including Lenox Group Inc., Elder-Beerman Stores Corp., O'Sullivan Industries Holdings Inc. and K2, Inc.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. Kasen possesses particular knowledge and experience in retail merchandising; accounting and finance; and apparel and consumer goods that strengthen the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

James A. Shea. Mr. Shea, age 71, has been a director of Gordmans since November 2010. In 2010, Mr. Shea retired from AutoZone, Inc., a national auto parts chain, where he held the position of Executive Vice President of Merchandising, Marketing and Supply Chain since 2005. Prior to joining AutoZone, Mr. Shea cofounded Portero, an Internet retailer of luxury goods. Between 1999 and 2003, he was Chief Executive Officer and a director of Party City, a specialty party goods chain and Halloween specialty retailer. Mr. Shea has also held senior merchandising executive positions with various retail and consumer companies, including Lechters Housewares, May Company, Target Corporation and Eddie Bauer.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. Shea possesses particular knowledge and experience in the retail industry, including merchandising and marketing, and accounting and finance that strengthen the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

#### Class II directors:

*Matthew N. Garff.* Mr. Garff, age 46, has been a director of Gordmans since April 2016. Mr. Garff, a Managing Director at Sun Capital Partners, Inc., has over a decade of experience analyzing and executing leveraged buyouts in a variety of industries. Prior to joining Sun Capital Partners in 2001, Mr. Garff worked for The Carlyle Group in Washington, DC, as well as with KSL Fairways specializing in acquiring golf courses.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. Garff possesses particular knowledge and experience in accounting, corporate finance and capital structure, and strategic planning and leadership of complex organizations across multiple industries that strengthens the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

Kenneth I. Tuchman. Mr. Tuchman, age 65, has been a director of Gordmans since July 2010. Mr. Tuchman has been a Vice Chairman in the investment and corporate banking practice at BMO Capital Markets, a financial services provider, since 2010 and has over 30 years of experience in investment banking, with a focus on mergers and acquisitions in the retail and consumer industries. Prior to serving as a Vice Chairman at BMO, Mr. Tuchman was an independent business advisor to several privately held businesses, which included retail and non-retail companies, from 2009 to 2010. Mr. Tuchman served as a Vice Chairman in the investment and corporate banking practice at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, a financial services provider, from 2007 to 2009 and as Vice Chairman of Wasserstein Perella & Co. (including its successor firms, Dresdner, Kleinwort Wasserstein and Dresdner Kleinwort), an investment banking and financial services provider, from 1997 to 2007. Mr. Tuchman also serves as a director for Smart & Final Stores, Inc., a high growth, value-oriented food retailer, since September 2015. Mr. Tuchman previously served on the board of directors of Parisian Department Stores.

As a result of these and other professional experiences, Mr. Tuchman possesses particular knowledge and experience in the retail industry and of accounting, finance and capital structure that strengthens the Board's collective qualifications, skills and experience.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

#### **Code of Conduct**

Our Code of Conduct is applicable to all of our officers, directors and associates, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Our Code of Conduct is available on our website at http://investor.gordmans.com/governance.cfm. Our website is not part of this Proxy Statement. You may contact our Secretary at our principal executive offices for a printed copy of our Code of Conduct. Our Code of Conduct is periodically reviewed by our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and changes are recommended to the Board as appropriate. Any amendments or waivers of our Code of Conduct pertaining to a member of the Board or one of our executive officers will be disclosed on our website at the above-referenced address.

#### **Board Composition and Director Independence**

Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that the Board shall consist of such number of directors as determined from time to time by resolution adopted by a majority of the total number of directors then in office. The Board currently consists of eight members and, following the Annual Meeting, if all director nominees are elected to the Board, the Board will continue to consist of eight members with no vacancies. Any additional directorships resulting from an increase in the number of directors may be appointed only by the directors then in office. For so long as affiliates of Sun Capital Partners, Inc. ("Sun Capital") own 30% or more of our outstanding shares of common stock, they will have the right to designate a majority of our Board of Directors, provided that, at such time as we are not a "controlled company" under the NASDAQ Stock Market corporate governance standards, a majority of our Board of Directors will be "independent directors," as defined under the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market. The term of office for each director will be until his successor is elected and qualified or until his earlier death, resignation or removal.

We are a "controlled company" for purposes of the corporate governance rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market corporate governance standards by virtue of the fact that affiliates of Sun Capital control more than 50% of the total voting power of our common stock. As a controlled company, exemptions under the standards free us from the obligation to comply with certain corporate governance requirements, including the following requirements:

- that a majority of our directors be "independent directors";
- that we have a nominating committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee's purpose and responsibilities;
- that we have a compensation committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee's purpose and responsibilities; and
- that we conduct annual performance evaluations of the nominating committee and compensation committee.

These exemptions do not modify the independence requirements for our Audit Committee. All members of our Audit Committee are required to be "independent directors," as defined under the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market and the SEC.

Once we are no longer a "controlled company," we must comply with the independent board committee requirements as they relate to the Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, subject to the phase-in rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market as follows: (1) we must have one independent committee member on the date we are no longer a "controlled company"; (2) we must have a majority of independent committee members within 90 days of the date we are no longer a "controlled company"; and (3) all committee members must be independent within one year of the date we are no longer a "controlled company." Additionally, we will have 12 months from the date we cease to be a "controlled company" to have a majority of independent directors on our Board of Directors.

The Board has determined that Messrs. Kasen, King, Shea and Tuchman meet the criteria for independence set forth in Section 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ Stock Market corporate governance rules.

#### **Board Leadership Structure and Executive Sessions**

We have a separate Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, with Mr. King serving as our Chairman and Mr. Hall serving as our Chief Executive Officer. The Board currently believes that having a separate Chairman and Chief Executive Officer provides an appropriate separation of duties and is in the best interests of our stockholders.

The Board believes that the independent directors, including our Chairman Mr. King, provide effective oversight of management. Our independent directors meet in executive sessions on a periodic basis.

The Board recognizes that no single leadership model is right for all companies and at all times, and the Board will continue to review its leadership structure as appropriate to ensure it continues to be in the best interests of our stockholders.

#### Role of Board in Risk Oversight

Our management team is responsible for our day-to-day risk management, and the Board is responsible for risk oversight. The Board executes its risk management responsibility directly and through its committees. During Board meetings, the Board regularly receives reports from our senior executive officers. These reports are designed to provide the Board with a detailed understanding of our business operations that both apprise the Board of risks we face and enable the Board to assess risks effectively.

The Audit Committee has responsibility for overseeing the Company's enterprise risk management process. The Audit Committee receives reports from our management team, including reports that rank and assess risks we face and an assessment of the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting, which are typically reviewed on a quarterly basis. Overall risk areas include financial risk assessments, risk management policies, information technology risks, major financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and mitigate such risks and exposures. The Compensation Committee oversees risks associated with our compensation policies and practices with respect to both executive compensation and compensation generally. The Compensation Committee receives reports, including reports from management, and discusses whether our compensation policies and practices create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee provides oversight of our compliance programs and assists the Board's other standing committees with respect to their oversight of our compliance programs.

#### **Outside Advisors**

The Board and its committees are free to engage independent outside financial, legal and other advisors as they deem necessary to provide advice and counsel on various topics or issues, at our expense, and are provided full access to our officers and associates.

#### Director Attendance at Board Meetings and Annual Meetings of Stockholders

During fiscal year 2015, our Board met five times, our Audit Committee met nine times, our Compensation Committee met four times and our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee met three times. Each director attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of Board meetings and committee meetings of which such director was a member for the time such director was a member during fiscal year 2015, either in person or via teleconference. Each director attended the annual meeting of stockholders held in June 2015.

#### Communications with the Board

Stockholders or interested parties may send communications to our directors as a group or individually, by writing to those individuals or the group: c/o Gordmans Stores, Inc., Corporate Secretary, 1926 South 67 th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68106, or electronically on our website at http://investor.gordmans.com/contactus.cfm. The Secretary will review all correspondence received and will forward all correspondence that is relevant to the duties and responsibilities of the Board or our business to the intended director(s). Examples of inappropriate communication include business solicitations, advertising and communication that is frivolous in nature, relates to routine business matters (such as product inquiries, complaints or suggestions) or raises grievances that are personal to the person submitting the communication. Upon request, any director may review communication that is not forwarded to the directors pursuant to this policy.

#### **Board Committees**

We currently have an Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The table which follows sets forth committee memberships as of the date of this proxy statement.

Director	Audit Committee	Compensation Committee	Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee
Matthew N. Garff		X	X*
Andrew T. Hall			X
Stewart M. Kasen	X		
Casey C. Lanza		X	
T. Scott King			X
Donald V. Roach		X*	
James A. Shea	X		
Kenneth I. Tuchman	X*		

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates chairman of the committee.

Because we are a "controlled company" for purposes of the corporate governance rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market, we are exempt from the rules that would otherwise require that our Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee be composed entirely of independent directors. The "controlled company" exception does not modify the independence requirements for the Audit Committee, and we comply with the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market.

Our Compensation Committee is currently comprised of directors who have not been determined to meet the definition of "independent directors" for purposes of serving on such committee. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is currently comprised of directors who have not been determined to meet the definition of "independent directors" for purposes of serving on such committee, except for Mr. King who is considered independent. As stated above, once we are no longer a "controlled company," we must comply with the independent board committee requirements as they relate to the Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, subject to applicable phase-in rules.

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee assists the Board in its oversight responsibilities relating to financial matters. As required by the NASDAQ corporate governance rules, none of the members of our Audit Committee have participated in the preparation of the financial statements of the Company and each of the members is able to read and understand fundamental financial statements, including the Company's balance sheet, statement of operations and cash flow statement. In addition, the Board has determined that Mr. Tuchman qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" within the meaning of SEC regulations and comparable NASDAQ corporate governance requirements.

The Board has adopted a written Audit Committee charter, which is reviewed and reassessed by our Audit Committee for adequacy on a regular basis and revised as necessary. Our Audit Committee Charter is available on our website at http://investor.gordmans.com/governance.cfm.

Among other matters enumerated in the charter, our Audit Committee has responsibility for: (1) appointing, compensating, retaining, evaluating, terminating and overseeing our independent registered public accounting firm; (2) discussing with our independent registered public accounting firm their independence from management; (3) reviewing with our independent registered public accounting firm the scope and results of their audit; (4) approving all audit and permissible non-audit services to be performed by our independent registered public accounting firm; (5) overseeing the financial reporting process and discussing with management and our independent registered public accounting firm the interim and annual financial statements that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission; (6) reviewing and monitoring our accounting principles, accounting policies, financial and accounting controls and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; (7) establishing procedures for the confidential anonymous submission of concerns regarding questionable accounting, internal controls or auditing matters; and (8) reviewing and approving related person transactions.

All members of the Audit Committee are "independent" under the heightened independence standard required for audit committee members under the NASDAQ Stock Market corporate governance rules and the rules of the SEC.

#### **Compensation Committee**

The Board has adopted a written Compensation Committee charter, which is reviewed and reassessed by our Compensation Committee for adequacy on a regular basis and revised as necessary. Our Compensation Committee Charter is available on our website at http://investor.gordmans.com/governance.cfm.

Among other matters enumerated in its charter, our Compensation Committee has responsibility for: (1) reviewing key associate compensation goals, policies, plans and programs; (2) reviewing and approving the compensation of our directors, chief executive officer and other executive officers; (3) reviewing and approving employment agreements and other similar arrangements between us and our executive officers; (4) administrating stock plans and other incentive compensation plans; and (5) preparing the compensation committee report on executive officer compensation required by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") for inclusion in the Company's annual proxy statement or Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our Compensation Committee charter allows the Compensation Committee to retain a consultant to assist in determining or recommending the amount or form of executive or director compensation. The Compensation Committee retained Hay Group for fiscal year 2015 to assist the Compensation Committee in its review of the executive and CEO compensation structure and strategy.

#### Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assists the Board in its oversight of Board composition, corporate governance policies and practices and related matters. The Board has adopted a written Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee charter, which is reviewed and reassessed by our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee for adequacy on a regular basis and revised as necessary. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Charter is available on our website at http://investor.gordmans.com/governance.cfm.

Among other matters enumerated in its charter, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has responsibility for: (1) identifying individuals qualified to become members of the Board, consistent with criteria approved by the Board; (2) overseeing the organization of the Board to discharge the Board's duties and responsibilities properly and efficiently; and (3) identifying best practices and recommending corporate governance principles.

#### **Director Candidates and Diversity**

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee identifies, recruits and recommends candidates for the Board and is responsible for reviewing and evaluating any candidates recommended by stockholders. The committee's recommendations are submitted to a vote of the full Board. Candidates approved by a majority of the Board will be presented to stockholders for election at the annual meeting of stockholders.

All director nominees must possess certain core competencies, some of which may include experience in retail, e-commerce, consumer products, real estate, store operations, finance and accounting, product design, merchandising, marketing, general operations, strategy, supply chain, human resources, technology, or experience as a chief executive officer. In addition to having one or more of these core competencies, director nominees are identified and considered on the basis of experience, historical knowledge of the Company's business, integrity, diversity, leadership, reputation, and, in the case of outside directors, the ability to understand our business. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee does not assign specific weights to particular criteria, and no particular criterion is necessarily applicable to all prospective nominees. All director nominees are pre-screened to ensure that each candidate has qualifications that complement the overall core competencies of the Board. The screening process also includes conducting a background evaluation and an independence determination. We may engage, for a fee, search firms to identify and assist the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee with identifying, evaluating and screening candidates for the Board.

In evaluating candidates for election to the Board, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board seek the most qualified individuals based on the criteria and desired qualities described above and consider diversity in the following manner. We believe a diversity of professional backgrounds enhances the Board's performance of its leadership and oversight functions in that directors with a variety of professional experience and expertise will be able to view all of the different elements and aspects of our business from different critical viewpoints and ask questions and make proposals and decisions from a broader range of professional views. Such diversity enables a broader critical review of more aspects of our business which we believe enhances, among other things, the Board's oversight of our risk management processes.

The Company's Bylaws contain a procedure allowing for the nomination by stockholders of proposed directors. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider director nominees submitted by our stockholders for election.

#### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

During fiscal year 2015, the members of our Compensation Committee were Mark Brody, Donald Roach and Brian Urbanek. Messrs. Brody and Urbanek resigned from the Board on April 15, 2016 and were replaced by Casey Lanza and Matthew Garff. No member of our Compensation Committee is or has been an officer or employee of the Company, and none of our executive officers served on the compensation committee or board of directors of any entity that employed any member of our Compensation Committee or Board. There are, and during fiscal year 2015 there were, no interlocking relationship between any of our executive officers and the Compensation Committee, on the one hand, and the executive officers and compensation committee of any other companies, on the other hand.

Messrs. Lanza, Roach and Garff are affiliated with Sun Capital. In connection with our initial public offering in August 2010, we entered into a Services Agreement with Sun Capital Partners Management V, LLC ("Sun Capital Management"), an affiliate of Sun Capital, to (1) reimburse Sun Capital Management for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in providing consulting services to us and (2) provide Sun Capital Management with customary indemnification for any such services. We reimbursed Sun Capital \$37 thousand in fiscal year 2015 for expenses under this Services Agreement.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### Introduction

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis describes the compensation arrangements we have with our named executive officers as required under the rules of the SEC. This Compensation Discussion and Analysis and the tables that follow set forth information relating to the compensation arrangements we have with our named executive officers as required under the rules of the SEC. The SEC rules require disclosure for the principal executive officer (our Chief Executive Officer or CEO) and principal financial officer (our Chief Financial Officer or CFO), regardless of compensation level, and the three most highly compensated executive officers both during and at the end of the last completed fiscal year, other than the CEO and CFO. We are including for disclosure six named executive officers because our former Chief Financial Officer, Michael D. James, resigned during fiscal year 2015. All of these named executive officers are referred to in this Compensation Discussion and Analysis as our "NEOs."

#### Our NEOs for fiscal year 2015 were:

Name	Title
Andrew T. Hall	Director, President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary
Lisa C. Evans	Executive Vice President and Chief Merchandising Officer
James B. Brown	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary
Tracie L. Wickenhauser (1)	Senior Vice President of Stores
Geoffrey B. Ayoub (2)	Senior Vice President of Planning, Allocation and Analysis
Michael D. James (3)	Former Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary

- Effective February 4, 2016, Ms. Wickenhauser resigned as Senior Vice President of Stores of the Company
- Effective April 22, 2016, Mr. Ayoub resigned as Senior Vice President of Planning, Allocation and Analysis of the Company.

  Effective September 3, 2015, Mr. James resigned as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary of the Company.

At our 2014 annual meeting of stockholders, we submitted our executive compensation program to an advisory vote of our stockholders and it received an overwhelming level of support at approximately 99% of the total votes cast on the proposal. We pay careful attention to any feedback we receive from our stockholders about our executive compensation program, including the say-on-pay vote. Based on the high level of support obtained in 2014, the Compensation Committee did not deem it necessary to implement any significant changes to the program. Nonetheless, the Compensation Committee continues to consider and monitor stockholder feedback in its subsequent executive compensation decision making and reviews our executive compensation program to ensure it aligns with our executive compensation objectives and philosophy. In addition, at our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders, approximately 84% of our stockholders supported a vote every three years on our executive compensation program and, in response, our Board has decided to hold a vote on say-on-pay every three years, with the next vote set to occur at the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders.

#### Executive Compensation Objectives and Philosophy

The executive compensation programs in place for fiscal year 2015 were set by our Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee reviews and approves the compensation of our NEOs (and, in the case of our Chief Executive Officer, recommends such compensation to our Board for approval) and oversees and

administers our executive compensation programs and initiatives. We expect that, over time, the specific direction, emphasis and components of our executive compensation program will continue to evolve.

The Compensation Committee meets outside the presence of all of our NEOs to consider appropriate compensation for our President and Chief Executive Officer. For all other NEOs, the Compensation Committee meets outside the presence of all NEOs except our President and Chief Executive Officer. In setting fiscal year 2015 compensation for our NEOs, our President and Chief Executive Officer reviewed each of the other NEO's performance with the Compensation Committee and recommended appropriate base salary, cash performance awards and grants of long-term equity incentive awards for all such NEOs. Based upon the recommendations from our President and Chief Executive Officer and in consideration of the objectives and principles described below, the Compensation Committee approves the annual compensation packages of our NEOs (other than our President and Chief Executive Officer). Our Compensation Committee annually analyzes our President and Chief Executive Officer's performance and determines his base salary, cash performance awards and grants of long-term equity incentive awards. Fiscal year 2016 compensation for our NEOs, including our President and Chief Executive Officer, will be reviewed and set using the same process.

For fiscal year 2015, the Compensation Committee retained an independent compensation consulting firm, Hay Group, to assist in its review of our executive and CEO compensation structure and strategy. Hay Group assisted the Compensation Committee with analyzing competitive peer company market data and relevant information relating to the Company's compensation programs. Hay Group looked at the competitiveness of our compensation arrangements with our executive officers by benchmarking our compensation programs against peer companies.

Our executive compensation program is designed to:

- attract and retain talented and experienced executives in our industry;
- reward executives whose knowledge, skills and performance are critical to our success;
- ensure fairness among the executive management team by recognizing the contributions each executive officer makes to our success;
- foster a shared commitment among executives by aligning their individual goals with the goals of the executive management team and our Company;
- compensate our executives in a manner that incentivizes them to manage our business to meet our long-term objectives.

#### **Benchmarking Analysis**

Hay Group was engaged by the Compensation Committee in fiscal year 2015 to benchmark our executive and CEO compensation structure and strategy against peer positions in the retail industry. All aspects of executive and CEO compensation were benchmarked by Hay Group, including cash compensation (base salary and non-equity incentive compensation) and equity incentive compensation. The peer group for the benchmarking analysis was derived from the Hay Group's 2014 Retail Industry Total Remuneration Report, which includes approximately 200 retail companies of various sizes with executive positions similar to us on the basis of functional responsibility, which was deemed appropriate by the Compensation Committee. Below are a number of the peer companies who participated in the survey that, based on industry, size, including annual revenues, and other characteristics we consider to be most relevant:

Abercrombie & Fitch	Gap	Ross Stores
Aeropostale	J.C.	Shopko
	Penney	
American Eagle Outfitters	Kohl's	Stage Stores
Bon-Ton Stores	L	Target
	Brands	_
Express	Macy's	The TJX
•	-	Companies

The Compensation Committee utilizes the benchmarking analysis to provide context for its compensation decision making. The Compensation Committee reviews each component of cash compensation (base salary and non-equity incentive compensation) and equity incentive compensation independently as well as aggregate compensation. Although the Committee considered the results of the benchmarking analysis, it did not make any determinations or changes in executive compensation based solely on the benchmarking analysis alone and did not target executive compensation to a specific range within the peer group. We expect that the Compensation Committee will continue to evaluate benchmarking information as it makes determinations about compensation in the future.

In benchmarking our executive and CEO compensation structure and strategy, Hay Group's analysis focused on the competitiveness of the following aspects of our executive and CEO compensation program compared to the peer group:

- · base salary;
- · total cash compensation, including base salary and non-equity incentive compensation; and
- total direct compensation, including total cash compensation and long-term equity based compensation.

In reviewing our executive and CEO cash compensation structure and strategy, the base salaries and total cash compensation were, on average, at the median or lower than that of similarly situated executives within the peer group. As a result of this market analysis and consistent with the overall objectives of our executive compensation program, the base salaries for several of our executive officers were adjusted in fiscal year 2015 to be more in line with market data. Following these increases, the base salaries for our executives in fiscal year 2015 were generally near the median of the market data. Additional increases to base salaries for certain of our executive officers may occur in fiscal year 2016 to be more in line with market data as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate. Further, the review of our non-equity incentive compensation structure and strategy resulted in enhancements to our performance-based cash incentive awards program in fiscal year 2015 consistent with the overall objectives of our executive compensation program. These enhancements included the elimination of the individual performance component of the cash incentive award for our executive officers, consistent with our CEO, and an adjustment to the bonus target percentage for our CEO to be more in line with market data and meet the objectives of our executive compensation program.

In reviewing our equity incentive structure, the structure of our equity incentive compensation program was compared to the market data from the benchmarking analysis, including the type of equity incentive awards issued to executive officers and how the amount of equity incentive compensation compares to total executive compensation. In general, the market analysis showed that the amount of our equity incentive compensation compared to total executive compensation was generally at the median of our peer group. We expect the Compensation Committee will continue to review the types of equity incentive awards issued to executive officers in the future.

#### Risk Management and Assessment

We have reviewed our compensation policies and practices with respect to risk-taking incentives and risk management, and do not believe that potential risks arising from our compensation policies or practices are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

#### Elements of Compensation

Our current executive compensation program consists of the following components:

- base salary;
- annual cash incentive awards linked to corporate financial objectives;

- long-term equity based compensation; and
- other executive benefits.

These elements, on an aggregate basis, are intended to substantially satisfy the overall objectives of our executive compensation program. We strive to achieve an appropriate mix between the various elements of our executive compensation program to meet our compensation objectives and philosophy; however, we do not apply any rigid allocation formula in setting our executive compensation, and we may make adjustments to this approach for various positions after giving due consideration to prevailing circumstances. Generally, the amount of our performance-based cash incentives are determined as a percentage of the recipient's base salary. See "Performance-Based Cash Incentive Awards." Our long-term equity based compensation is available for allocation among our executive officers (including our NEOs) and other management level associates, with the amount awarded to each recipient determined based on such recipient's position and total compensation.

#### Base Salary

An evaluation of each NEO's performance was conducted at the beginning of fiscal year 2015 by our President and Chief Executive Officer, and each NEO's annual increase in base pay, if any, was determined based on various factors, including the Company-wide merit increase guideline for the year, our financial performance, the NEO's overall individual performance rating, the NEO's current salary in relation to the salary range established for the NEO's position and the results of the benchmarking analysis. The Board reviewed and approved all base salary adjustments recommended by our President and Chief Executive Officer at the time

The base salary of our President and Chief Executive Officer was reviewed by our Compensation Committee and ultimately approved by our Board of Directors.

The fiscal year 2015 annual base salary for each of our NEOs is set forth below.

Name	Base Salary (1)
Andrew T. Hall	\$725,000
Lisa C. Evans	\$400,000
James B. Brown (2)	\$325,000
Tracie L. Wickenhauser (3)	\$303,000
Geoffrey B. Ayoub (4)	\$283,500
Michael D. James (5)	\$246,000

- (1) Represents the annual base salary for each NEO as of January 30, 2016, except as noted below.
- (2) Mr. Brown's employment began September 16, 2015.
- Ms. Wickenhauser resigned effective February 4, 2016.
   Mr. Ayoub resigned effective April 22, 2016.
- (5) Mr. James resigned effective September 3, 2015.

Salaries for our NEOs are reviewed and adjusted annually, as well as at the time of a promotion or other change in level of responsibilities, or when competitive circumstances or business needs may require. As noted above, we expect that the Compensation Committee will recommend a compensation package (including base salary) for fiscal year 2016 that is consistent with our compensation philosophies.

#### Performance-Based Cash Incentive Awards

Our President and Chief Executive Officer and Compensation Committee have authority to award annual cash bonuses to our executive officers. On an annual basis, or at the commencement of an executive officer's employment with us, our President and Chief Executive Officer and Compensation Committee typically set a target level of bonus compensation that is structured as a percentage of annual base salary for all NEOs other

than the President and Chief Executive Officer. For fiscal year 2015, corporate financial performance was the sole component used for purposes of determining the amount of cash incentive awards payable to an NEO.

The target annual incentive award for our President and Chief Executive Officer is established by the Compensation Committee and approved by the Board and is tied to corporate financial performance.

The actual bonuses awarded in any year, if any, may be more or less than the target, depending on the achievement of corporate financial objectives, but may vary based on other factors at the discretion of our President and Chief Executive Officer and/or Compensation Committee. We believe that establishing cash bonus opportunities helps us attract and retain qualified and highly skilled executives. These annual bonuses are intended to reward executive officers who have a positive impact on our financial performance.

For fiscal year 2015, corporate financial performance was linked to achievement of a target net income of \$4.6 million. We believe that net income is the best measure of the Company's overall financial performance. Upon attaining the target net income, all NEOs other than our President and Chief Executive Officer would have earned a cash incentive award equal to 45% of his or her fiscal year 2015 base salary. The cash incentive award was able to be increased or decreased, in each case on a pro-rata basis, provided that no cash incentive would have been awarded for the corporate financial performance component unless net income of at least \$255,000 was attained. The fiscal year 2015 cash incentive program does not provide for discretionary bonuses. We use our audited financial statements as the official source for determining the net income achieved by the Company.

Any incentive award may be revoked at any time if subsequent audits detect any discrepancies in accounting or inventory practices. Associates, including our NEOs, involved in these types of discrepancies may also face disciplinary actions up to, and including, termination of employment.

While there was no individual performance component of the cash incentive award in fiscal year 2015, our President and Chief Executive Officer has the authority to adjust an executive officer's cash incentive award should our President and Chief Executive Officer feel that the executive officer is not meeting expectations and/or achieving the objectives established and agreed upon for fiscal year 2015.

The following table sets forth, for all of our executive officers (including our NEOs), other than our President and Chief Executive Officer, the fiscal year 2015 net income targets as well as the aggregate available bonus pool for purposes of the cash incentive award.

Company Performance		Bonus Potential							
	Net Income as a % of Plan	Net Income	Target Bonus Multiplier	Bonus Target	Bonus as a % of Base Salary	Financial Performance Bonus Pool			
Maximum	170%	\$ 7,820,000	200%		90%	\$ 2,005,650			
Target	100%	\$ 4,600,000	100%	45%	45%	\$ 1,002,825			
Threshold (1)	5.5%	\$ 255,000	35%		16%	\$ 350,989			

<sup>(1)</sup> No company performance bonus for net income below \$255,000.

The following table sets forth, for our President and Chief Executive Officer, the fiscal year 2015 net income targets as well as the aggregate available bonus for purposes of the cash incentive award.

Company Performance		Bonus Potential							
	Net Income as a % of Plan	Net Income	Target Bonus Multiplier	Bonus Target	Bonus as a % of Base Salary		inancial formance Bonus		
Maximum	170%	\$ 7,820,000	200%		100%	\$	725,000		
Target	100%	\$ 4,600,000	100%	50%	50%	\$	362,500		
Threshold (1)	5.5%	\$ 255,000	35%		18%	\$	126,875		

<sup>(1)</sup> No company performance bonus for net income below plan of \$255,000.

During fiscal year 2015, we incurred a net loss of \$4.3 million, which was below our threshold of net income of 255,000 and resulted in no financial performance bonuses for our executive officers (including our NEOs).

Long-Term Equity Incentives

Our equity incentive structure is intended to accomplish the following objectives:

- balance and align the interests of participants and stockholders;
- reward participants for demonstrated leadership and performance in relation to the creation of stockholder value;
- increase equity ownership levels of key associates;
- ensure competitive levels of compensation in line with our peer group; and
- assist us in attracting, retaining and motivating key associates.

Gordmans Stores, Inc. 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan

We adopted the Gordmans Stores, Inc. 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (the "2010 Plan") in connection with our initial public offering. The 2010 Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee. The 2010 Plan provides for the granting of stock options, including incentive stock options and nonqualified stock options, stock appreciation rights, shares of restricted stock, restricted stock units, rights to dividend equivalents and other stock-based awards. As of March 25, 2016, the aggregate number of shares reserved for issuance under the 2010 Plan was 4,573,086, of which there were 1,620,025 shares available for future grant. The Compensation Committee determines the terms and conditions of each award, including the number of shares subject to the award, the vesting terms of the award and the purchase price for the award. Awards may be made in assumption of or in substitution for outstanding awards previously granted by us or our affiliates, or a company acquired by us or with which we combine. Stock option awards are valued using the Black-Scholes option valuation model while performance share awards are valued using the Monte Carlo valuation model, both of which are further disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our NEOs and other executive officers were awarded stock options and shares of restricted stock during fiscal year 2015, as summarized in "Compensation Tables—Grants of Plan-Based Awards." Mr. Brown, who was appointed as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary on September 16, 2015, was awarded stock options, restricted stock, and performance shares upon commencement of employment. The number of stock options, shares of restricted stock, and performance shares granted to our NEOs was intended to serve as compensation for each executive's performance, an incentive for each NEO to sustain his or her level of performance in the future and as a retention mechanism. The Compensation Committee determined the number of stock options, shares of restricted stock, and performance share awards to be issued. Stock options were granted with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of our common stock as of the date prior to the grant. Stock option and restricted stock awards are subject to straight-line vesting of 25% each year over a four-year period, commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant. Performance share awards vest if certain market condition criteria are achieved as of the end of fiscal year 2017, provided the participant is then employed by the Company. The Monte Carlo valuation estimated the number of performance shares that are reasonably likely to be awarded. We used this estimation to calculate the fair value on the grant date of the performance share awards.

#### Additional Executive Benefits and Perquisites

We provide the following benefits to our executive officers, including our NEOs, on the same basis as other eligible associates:

- health insurance:
- · vacation, personal holidays and sick days; and
- a 401(k) savings plan.

We believe these benefits are generally consistent with those offered by other companies and specifically with those companies with which we compete for associates. Our executive officers are reimbursed for any reasonable relocation expenses they incur as defined in their offer letters. We also provide an automobile allowance to our Senior Vice President of Stores.

#### Retirement Plan Benefits

We do not sponsor a defined benefit retirement plan as we do not believe that such a plan best serves the needs of our associates or the business at this time. We sponsor a tax-qualified defined contribution retirement plan. Participation in the qualified plan is available to associates who meet certain age and service requirements.

#### 401(k) Savings Plan

We offer a 401(k) savings plan that allows associates to defer a percentage of their income by making pretax contributions to the savings plan. The plan is available to all eligible associates, including our NEOs. In fiscal year 2015, we provided a matching contribution equal to 50% of associate deferrals up to a maximum of 4% of an associate's base salary.

#### Employment Agreements and Severance and Change in Control Benefits

We have entered into severance agreements with our President and Chief Executive Officer and our other NEOs, which contain severance benefits and change in control provisions. We believe these severance and change in control benefits are essential elements of our executive compensation package and assist us in recruiting and retaining talented individuals. In addition, we may enter into employment agreements with certain other executive officers. See "Compensation Tables—Agreements with, and Potential Payments to, Named Executive Officers—Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control."

#### Accounting and Tax Considerations

In determining which elements of compensation are to be paid, and how they are weighted, we also take into account whether a particular form of compensation will be deductible under Section 162(m) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Section 162(m) limits our ability to deduct certain compensation in excess of \$1.0 million paid to our CEO and to certain of our other NEOs during any fiscal year. This limitation does not apply to compensation that qualifies under applicable regulations as "performance-based." We take into consideration whether the performance-based compensation we pay to our NEOs will satisfy the requirements for deductibility under Section 162(m); however, the Compensation Committee is authorized to exercise discretion in determining payments in relation to levels of achievement of performance goals and believes that the total compensation program for executive officers should be managed in accordance with the objectives outlined in our compensation objectives and philosophy and in the best overall interests of our stockholders. For this reason, some compensation intended to be performance-based may exceed the limitations or not meet the requirements for deductibility under Section 162(m).

Many other Code provisions, SEC regulations and accounting rules affect the payment of executive compensation and are generally taken into consideration as programs are developed. Our goal is to create and maintain plans that are efficient, effective and in full compliance with these requirements.

#### **Report of the Compensation Committee**

The information contained in the following report of Gordmans' Compensation Committee is not considered to be "soliciting material," "filed" or incorporated by reference in any past or future filing by Gordmans under the Exchange Act or the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless and only to the extent that Gordmans specifically incorporates it by reference.

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis set forth above with the Company's management and, based upon such review and discussion, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference into the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016.

This report is submitted by all of the current members of the Compensation Committee.

Respectfully submitted, The Compensation Committee

Donald V. Roach, Chair Matthew N. Garff Casey C. Lanza

#### **Compensation Tables**

The purpose of the following tables is to provide information regarding the compensation earned by our NEOs during our three most recently completed fiscal years.

#### **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table shows the compensation earned by our current NEOs during the fiscal years ended January 30, 2016, January 31, 2015 and February 1, 2014, referred to as fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Name and Principal Position Andrew T. Hall, President, CEO and Secretary (4)	<u>Year</u> 2015 2014	Salary (\$) 725,000 334,615 <sup>(5)</sup>	Bonus (\$) — — — 8,202 <sup>(8)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$) (1) 390,469	Option Awards (\$) (1) 263,580 99,026	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (S) (2)	All Other Compensation (\$) (3) 124,195 24,000	Total (\$) 1,503,244 457,641
Lisa C. Evans,  Executive Vice President and CMO (6)	2015 2014	400,000 30,769 <sup>(7)</sup>	8,202 <sup>(0)</sup>	106,960	72,733 50,782		79,639 —	667,534 81,551
James B. Brown Executive Vice President, CFO, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary <sup>(9)</sup>	2015	121,875 <sup>(10)</sup>	2,226 <sup>(11)</sup>	65,897	33,408	_	20,051	243,457
Tracie L. Wickenhauser, Senior Vice President of Stores (12)	2015 2014 2013	303,000 291,346 <sup>(13)</sup> 255,000	50,000 <sup>(14)</sup>	69,588 64,690 —	47,215 62,426 —	<u> </u>	27,774 10,800 49,828	447,577 479,262 339,569
Geoffrey B. Ayoub, Senior Vice President of Planning, Allocation and Analysis (15)	2015 2014 2013	283,500 278,000 200,206 <sup>(16)</sup>	25,000 <sup>(17)</sup>	65,722 60,014 107,604	44,159 57,948 87,264	50,000	12,656 12,301 196,033	406,037 433,263 641,467
Michael D. James, Former Senior Vice President, CFO, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary <sup>(18)</sup>	2015 2014 2013	146,654 <sup>(19)</sup> 242,000 238,000	_	56,702 52,220 —	38,353 50,441 —	32,425	78,957 5,209 362	320,666 349,870 270,787

Awards reflect the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, Compensation—Stock Compensation ("ASC Topic 718"). Stock awards and stock options were issued to all of our NEOs in June 2015, except for Mr. Brown whose stock awards and stock options were awarded when he began employment in September 2015, and are subject to time vesting at a rate of 25% per year over four years, commencing on the first anniversary of the grant date and ending on the fourth anniversary of the grant date. Performance share awards were issued to all of our NEOs in June 2015, except for Mr. Brown whose performance share awards were awarded when he began employment in September 2015, and cliff-vest at the end of fiscal year 2017 based on the actual percentile ranking of the Company's total shareholder return compared to peer performance as of the end of fiscal year 2017. Performance share awards are included in the Stock Awards column above and presented as the fair value at the date of the grant based on the Monte Carlo valuation model. The maximum potential fair value of the performance awards are also provided below.

	2015 Performance Share Awards Fair Value at Grant Date	2015 Performance Share Awards Maximum Potential Fair Value		
Mr. Hall	\$ 248,422	\$ 310,727		
Ms. Evans	68,050	85,117		
Mr. Brown	49,193	61,530		
Ms. Wickenhauser	44,273	55,377		
Mr. Ayoub	41,814	52,301		
Mr. James	36,075	45,122		

Stock options were issued to Mr. Hall in August 2014 subject to time vesting at a rate of 25% per year over four years. Stock options were issued to Ms. Evans in January 2015 subject to time vesting at a rate of 25% per year over four years. Stock awards and stock options were issued to all of our NEOs, excluding Mr. Hall, Ms. Evans and Mr. Brown in June 2014 subject to time vesting at a rate of 25% per

Stock awards and stock options were issued to Mr. Ayoub in May 2013 subject to time vesting at a rate of 25% per year over four years.

A special cash dividend of \$3.60 per share of common stock was declared on August 26, 2013 and paid on September 23, 2013 on outstanding shares of common stock other than unvested restricted stock as of that date. Such dividend is being paid on the unvested restricted stock as it vests. Pursuant to the anti-dilution provisions of the 2010 Plan, the exercise price of each non-qualified and incentive stock option was reduced by \$3.60 per share and \$2.82 per share, respectively. In addition, the Company granted 77,195 shares of additional incentive stock options on September 24, 2013 to the existing holders of the incentive stock options in proportion to each executive officer's incentive stock options that were granted in August 2010 to maintain the same intrinsic value of the awards both before and after the dividend payment; as a result, the additional incentive stock options are not included as compensation for fiscal year 2013. The additional incentive stock options adopted the same vesting schedule as the original incentive stock options awarded in August 2010. Such modifications, including the issuance of the additional incentive stock options, did not result in additional compensation expense to the

The Company uses the Black-Scholes option valuation model to estimate fair value of the options and the Monte Carlo valuation model to estimate the fair value of performance share awards. The significant assumptions used in applying the Black-Scholes option and Monte Carlo valuation models are further disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

- Represents amounts earned under our performance-based cash incentive plan. See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis—Elements of Compensation-Performance-Based Cash Incentive Awards" for a more detailed discussion of the performance-based cash incentive plan.
- Under the 2010 Plan, restricted stock, upon vesting, entitles the holder to receive any dividend paid by the Company. The Company declared a special cash dividend of \$3.60 per share of common stock on August 26, 2013, of which \$69.6 million was paid on September 23, 2013 and the remainder \$0.3 million is being paid as the unvested restricted stock eligible to receive the dividend becomes vested. In accordance with Item 402(c)(2)(ix) of Regulation S-K and the adopting release thereto (Release 33-8732A), the dividends awarded on shares of unvested restricted stock by virtue of the dividend rights contained in the restricted stock award agreements and in connection with the special cash dividend of \$3.60 per share of common stock are not reflected in this column, as our stock price was reduced by \$3.60 as a result of the special cash dividend. Pursuant to the special cash dividend, dividends received in fiscal years 2015 and 2014 on shares of restricted stock that were unvested on the September 23, 2013 dividend payment date attributable to each NEO who held eligible restricted stock were as follows:

		2013			
Dividends on	Dividends on	Dividends on Unvested			
Unvested	Unvested				
Restricted Stock	Restricted Stock	Restricted Stock			
\$ 16,974	\$ 16,974	\$ 16,974			
7,560	7,560	_			
_	3,690	3,690			
	Restricted Stock \$ 16,974	Dividends on Unvested         Dividends on Unvested           Restricted Stock         Restricted Stock           \$ 16,974         \$ 16,974           7,560         7,560			

For Mr. Hall, 'All Other Compensation' represents the reimbursement of \$124,195 in moving related expense in fiscal year 2015 and \$24,000 in moving related expense in fiscal year 2014.

For Ms. Evans, 'All Other Compensation' represents the reimbursement of \$79,639 in moving related expense in fiscal year 2015.

For Mr. Brown, 'All Other Compensation' represents the reimbursement of \$20,051 in moving related expense in fiscal year 2015.

For Ms. Wickenhauser, 'All Other Compensation' represents \$10,800 in automobile allowance and \$16,974 in dividends on unvested stock in fiscal years 2015 and \$10,800 in automobile allowance 2014 and \$10,800 in automobile allowance and \$39,028 in moving related expenses in fiscal years 2013.

For Mr. Ayoub, 'All Other Compensation' represents \$5,096 in 401(k) matching contributions and \$7,560 in dividends on unvested stock in fiscal year 2015 and the reimbursement of \$9,093 in moving related expenses and \$3,208 in 401(k) matching contributions in fiscal year 2014 and the reimbursement of \$121,033 in moving related expenses and a signing bonus of \$75,000 for fiscal year 2013.

For Mr. James, 'All Other Compensation' represents \$3,265 in 401(k) matching contributions and \$75,692 in severance payments pursuant to Mr. James's employment agreement in fiscal year 2015 and \$5,209 and \$362 in 401(k) matching contributions in fiscal years 2014 and 2013, respectively.

- Mr. Hall's employment with the Company began on August 19, 2014. Reflects Mr. Hall's annual base salary of \$725,000 prorated from his hire date of August 19, 2014.
- Ms. Evans's employment with the Company began on January 5, 2015.
- Reflects Ms. Evans's annual base salary of \$400,000 prorated from her hire date of January 5, 2015.

- Reflects a board approved discretionary bonus awarded to Ms. Evans in 2015.
- Mr. Brown's employment with the Company began on September 16, 2015.
- Reflects Mr. Brown's annual base salary of \$325,000 prorated from his hire date of September 16, 2015.
- Reflects a board approved discretionary bonus awarded to Mr. Brown in 2015.
- (12)
- Ms. Wickenhauser resigned effective February 4, 2016.
  Reflects Ms. Wickenhauser resigned effective February 4, 2016.
  Reflects Ms. Wickenhauser's annual base salary of \$255,000 prorated through April 14, 2014 and Ms. Wickenhauser's annual base salary of \$300,000 prorated effective April 14, 2014 through the remainder (13)
- (14) Reflects a one-time retention bonus awarded to Ms. Wickenhauser in 2014.
- (15)
- Mr. Ayoub's resigned effective April 22, 2016.
  Reflects Mr. Ayoub's annual base salary of \$275,000 prorated from his hire date of May 13, 2013.
- Reflects a one-time bonus awarded to Mr. Ayoub for covering duties usually performed by the Chief Merchandising Officer from May 28, 2014, the date the former Executive Vice President and Chief Merchandising resigned, to January 5, 2015, the hire date of our current Executive Vice President and Chief Merchandising Officer.
- Mr. James resigned as Senior Vice President, CFO, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer effective September 3, 2015.
- Reflects Mr. James's annual base salary of \$246,000 prorated through his date of resignation of September 3, 2015.

#### Grants of Plan-Based Awards

		Under N	ed Potential Non-Equity I Plan Award	ncentive	Estimated Potential Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards		All Other Stock Awards: Number of	All Other Option Awards: Number of	Exercise or Base Price of	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and	
Name	Grant Date	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Shares or Stock Units (#)	Securities Underlying Options (#)	Option Awards (\$/Sh)	Award Options (\$)
Andrew T. Hall	6/4/15 6/4/15 6/4/15	_ _ _ _	362,500 — — —	725,000	_ _ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _	30,300 <sup>(2)</sup> 48,450 <sup>(3)</sup>	172,500 <sup>(1)</sup>	5.86 —	263,580 142,046 248,422
Lisa C. Evans	6/4/15 6/4/15 6/4/15	_ _ _ _	180,000 — — —	360,000	=	=	=	8,300 <sup>(2)</sup> 13,272 <sup>(3)</sup>	47,600 <sup>(1)</sup>	5.86 —	72,733 38,910 68,050
James B. Brown <sup>(4)</sup>	9/21/15 9/21/15 9/21/15	_ _ _	54,844 — — —	109,688 — — —	_ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _		36,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	3.48	33,408 16,704 49,193
Tracie L. Wickenhauser	6/4/15 6/4/15 6/4/15	_ _ _ _	136,350	272,700 — — —	_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _	5,400 <sup>(2)</sup> 8,635 <sup>(3)</sup>	30,900(1)	5.86	47,215 25,310 44,273
Geoffrey B. Ayoub	6/4/15 6/4/15 6/4/15	_ _ _ _	127,575 — — —	255,150 — — —	_ _ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _ _	5,100 <sup>(2)</sup> 8,155 <sup>(3)</sup>	28,900 <sup>(1)</sup>	5.86 —	44,159 23,909 41,814
Michael D. James <sup>(5)</sup>	6/4/15 6/4/15 6/4/15	_ _ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _ _	=	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ - \\ 4{,}400^{(2)} \\ 7{,}036^{(3)} \end{array}$	25,100 <sup>(1)</sup>	5.86 —	38,353 20,627 36,075

Stock options vest at a rate of 25% per year over four years, commencing on the first anniversary of the grant date and ending on the fourth anniversary of the grant date.

(2) Shares of restricted stock are issued and vest at a rate of 25% per year over four years, commencing on the first anniversary of the grant date and ending on the fourth anniversary of the grant date. Vesting is immediate upon a change in control of the Company or a participant's death or disability, as defined in the 2010 Plan.

Performance share awards cliff-vest at the end of fiscal year 2017 based on the actual percentile ranking of the Company's total shareholder return compared to peer performance as of the end of fiscal year 2017. Vesting is immediate upon a change in control of the Company or a participant's death or disability, as defined in the 2010 Plan. Performance share awards are included in the All Other Stock Awards column above are presented at the fair value on the date grant based on the Monte Carlo valuation model. Amounts include in

the table above represent the expected potential number of shares and expected potential fair value at the date of the grant based on the Monte Carlo valuation model. The maximum potential number of shares and maximum potential fair value of the performance awards, which is based on meeting the highest percentile ranking (200%) on the Company's total shareholder return compared to the peer performance at the end of fiscal year 2017, are also provided below.

	2015 Performance Share Awards Maximum Potential Number of Shares	A M	2015 Performance Share Awards Maximum Potential Fair Value		
Mr. Hall	60,600	\$	310,727		
Ms. Evans	16,600		85,117		
Mr. Brown	12,000		61,530		
Ms. Wickenhauser	10,800		55,377		
Mr. Ayoub	10,200		52,301		
Mr. James	8,800		45,122		

<sup>4)</sup> Reflects Mr. Browns's annual base salary of \$325,000 prorated from his hire date of September 16, 2016.

#### Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

As of January 30, 2016, 631,942 shares of restricted stock were vested for accounting purposes.

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the outstanding equity awards of each of our NEOs as of January 30, 2016 and for stock options outstanding that were issued prior to August 26, 2013, reflects the adjustments noted above resulting from the special cash dividend of \$3.60 per share of common stock that was declared on August 26, 2013.

			Option Awa	rds (1)		Stock Awards (2)		
Name	Grant Date	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price (\$/Sh)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)	
Andrew T. Hall	8/29/14	25,000	75,000	3.59	8/29/24	_	_	
	6/4/15	_	172,500	5.86	6/4/25	78,750	197,663	
Lisa C. Evans	1/5/15	17,500	52,500	2.63	1/5/25	_	_	
	6/4/15	_	47,600	5.86	6/4/25	21,572	54,146	
James B. Brown	9/21/15	_	36,000	3.48	9/21/25	15,594	39,141	
Tracie L. Wickenhauser (3)	3/22/12	24,000	16,000	16.11	3/22/22	_	_	
	9/27/12	11,700	3,900	14.25	9/27/22	8,055	20,218	
	6/5/14	11,850	35,550	4.33	6/5/24	12,450	31,250	
	6/4/15	_	30,900	5.86	6/4/25	14,035	35,228	
Geoffrey B. Ayoub (4)	5/28/13	12,000	12,000	9.21	5/28/23	2,400	6,024	
	6/5/14	11,000	33,000	4.33	6/5/24	11,550	28,991	
	6/4/15	_	28,900	5.86	6/4/25	13,255	33,270	
Michael D. James (5)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	

Options included in this table vest at a rate of 25% per year over four years or 20% over five years, commencing on the first anniversary of the grant date and ending on the fourth and fifth anniversaries of the grant date, respectively. Vesting is immediate upon a change in control of the company or a participant's death or disability, as defined in the 2010 Plan.

<sup>(5)</sup> Mr. James was not eligible for 2015 Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards as he was not employed by the Company on January 30, 2016.

<sup>(2)</sup> Stock awards vest at a rate of 25% per year over four years or 20% over five years, commencing on the first anniversary of the grant date and ending on the fourth and fifth anniversaries of the grant date, respectively. Performance share awards cliff-vest at the end of fiscal year 2017 based on the actual percentile ranking of the Company's total shareholder return compared to peer performance as of the end

of fiscal year 2017. Performance share awards granted on June 5, 2015 and September 21, 2015 are included in the Stock Awards column above. The expected number of shares subject to the award has been calculated using the Monte Carlo valuation model and are listed below. Market value is based upon the \$2.51 closing price of our common stock on January 30, 2016.

	2015
	Performance
	Share Awards
	Expected Potential
	Number of Shares
Mr. Hall	48,450
Ms. Evans	13,272
Mr. Brown	9,594
Ms. Wickenhauser (3)	8,635 8,155
Mr. Ayoub (4)	8,155
Mr. James	<u> </u>

- Ms. Wickenhauser resigned from her position as Senior Vice President of Stores effective on February 4, 2016; as a result, all unvested stock options, unvested restricted stock and performance share awards held by Ms. Wickenhauser have been forfeited. According to the 2010 Plan, all vested stock options are to be exercised by Ms. Wickenhauser within 90 days from the last day of employment, at which time the stock options expire. Ms. Wickenhauser did not exercise any stock options in fiscal 2015 and all of Ms. Wickenhauser's stock options have yet to expire.
- Mr. Ayoub resigned from his position as Senior Vice President of Planning, Allocation and Analysis effective on April 22, 2016; as a result, all unvested stock options, unvested restricted stock and unvested performance awards held by Mr. Ayoub have been forfeited. Furthermore, Mr. Ayoub relinquished his right to exercise any vested stock options within 90 days from the last day of employment, as prescribed by the 2010 Plan, and all of Mr. Ayoub's stock options expired unexercised.

  Mr. James resigned from his position as Senior Vice President, Furthermore, Mr. Ayoub relinquished his right to exercise any vested stock options within 90 days from the last day of employment, as prescribed by the 2010 Plan, and all of Mr. Ayoub's stock options expired unexercised.

  Mr. James resigned from his position as Senior Vice President, Furthermore, Mr. Ayoub relinquished his right to exercise any vested stock options within 90 days from the last day of employment, as prescribed by the 2010 Plan, and all of Mr. Ayoub's stock options expired unexercised.

  Mr. James resigned from his position as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary effective on September 3, 2015; as a result, all unvested stock options and unvested
- (5) Mr. James resigned from his position as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary effective on September 3, 2015; as a result, all unvested stock options and unvested restricted stock held by Mr. James have been forfeited. Furthermore, Mr. James relinquished his right to exercise any vested stock options within 90 days from the last day of employment, as prescribed by the 2010 Plan, and all of Mr. James's stock options expired unexercised.

#### **Option Exercises and Stock Vested**

There were no stock options exercised by our NEOs during fiscal year 2015. The following table provides the aggregate value realized by certain NEOs upon the vesting of restricted stock awards in fiscal year 2015.

	Stock A	vards	
Name	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$)	
Andrew T. Hall	<del></del>	<del></del>	
Lisa C. Evans	<del>_</del>	<del>_</del>	
James B. Brown	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	
Tracie L. Wickenhauser	7,218(1)	31,149(1)	
Geoffrey B. Ayoub	3,534(2)	20,086(2)	
Michael D. James	1,987(3)	11,515(3)	

- 1) Value is determined based on the average of the high and low prices of our common stock on the date prior to the vesting date multiplied by the number of shares that vested on such dates. On June 5, 2015, the Company withheld 1,647 shares of the 4,150 shares of restricted stock that vested on that date to satisfy the NEO's tax withholding obligations. On September 27, 2015, 4,715 shares vested with no shares withheld.
- Value is determined based on the average of the high and low prices of our common stock on the date prior to the vesting date multiplied by the number of shares that vested on such dates. On May 28, 2015, the Company withheld 850 shares of the 2,100 shares of restricted stock that vested on that date to satisfy the NEO's tax withholding obligations. On June 5, 2015, the Company withheld 1,566 shares of the 3,850 shares of restricted stock that vested on that date to satisfy the NEO's tax withholding obligations.
- (3) Value is determined based on the average of the high and low prices of our common stock on the date prior to the vesting date multiplied by the number of shares that vested on such dates. On June 5, 2015, the Company withheld 1,363 shares of the 3,350 shares of restricted stock that vested on that date to satisfy the NEO's tax withholding obligations.

#### Pension Benefits

Our NEOs did not participate in or have account balances in any qualified or nonqualified defined benefit plans sponsored by us. Our Board or Compensation Committee may elect to adopt qualified or nonqualified benefit plans in the future if it determines that doing so is in our best interest.

#### Agreements with, and Potential Payments to, Named Executive Officers

The following summaries provide a description of the agreements we have entered into with our NEOs covering the terms of their employment and/or potential severance benefits.

#### Severance Agreements

We are party to severance agreements with each of our NEOs. The severance agreements provide that in the event: (i) an NEO is terminated without cause or (ii) within nine months of a change in control, the location of an NEO's place of work is moved more than 50 miles, or the position and scope of an NEO's responsibilities is significantly reduced, then, subject to the NEO's execution of a release of claims against us, the NEO will receive salary continuation through the earlier of six months (twelve months for Mr. Hall) or the date on which the NEO is employed by a third party, and continued medical and dental coverage through the end of the salary continuation period.

#### Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control

The information below describes and quantifies certain compensation that would become payable under the severance agreements with our NEOs if his or her employment with us terminated at the end of fiscal year 2015 under circumstances entitling the NEO to payments and benefits under his or her severance agreement. The compensation described below for Mr. James is based on the amount paid to him since his resignation on September 3, 2015. The information below assumes that each NEO has executed a release of claims against us and has not procured third party employment. Due to the number of factors that affect the nature and amount of any benefits provided upon the events discussed below, any actual amounts paid or distributed may be different. Factors that could affect these amounts include the timing during the year of any such event.

Name	Component	Without Cause (\$)	Change in Control (\$)	Change in Location or Responsibilities Following Change in Control (\$)
Andrew T. Hall	Base Salary Continuation	725,000		725,000
	Vesting of Equity Awards (1)	<u></u>	76,053	<u>—</u>
	Total Severance	725,000	76,053	725,000
Lisa C. Evans	Base Salary Continuation	200,000		200,000
	Vesting of Equity Awards (2)	<u> </u>	20,833	<u> </u>
	Total Severance	200,000	20,833	200,000
James B. Brown	Base Salary Continuation	162,500		162,500
	Vesting of Equity Awards (3)		15,060	<u> </u>
	Total Severance	162,500	15,060	162,500
Tracie L. Wickenhauser	Base Salary Continuation	151,500		151,500
	Vesting of Equity Awards (4)	<u></u> _	75,438	<u> </u>
	Total Severance	151,500	75,438	151,500
Geoffrey B. Ayoub	Base Salary Continuation	141,750	_	141,750
	Vesting of Equity Awards (5)	<u> </u>	61,997	<u> </u>
	Total Severance	141,750	61,997	141,750

		Without Cause	Change in Control	or Responsibilities Following Change in Control
Name	Component	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Michael D. James	Base Salary Continuation	123,420		123,420
	Vesting of Equity Awards (6)	<u></u> _		
	Total Severance	123,420	_	123,420

Change in Leastin

- (1) Includes the unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015. For the unvested restricted stock, this represents the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016. The August 2014 and June 2015 stock options are not included as the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016 is less than the exercise price of \$3.59 and \$5.86 per share, respectfully.
- Includes the unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015. For the unvested restricted stock, this represents the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016. The January 2015 stock options and the June 2015 stock options are not included as the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016 is less than the exercise price of \$2.63 per share \$5.86 per share, respectively.

  Includes the unvested restricted stock issued in September 2015. For the unvested restricted stock, this represents the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016. The September 2015 stock options are not included as the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016. The January 30, 2016 is less than the exercise price of \$2.63 per share \$2.63
- (3) Includes the unvested restricted stock issued in September 2015. For the unvested restricted stock, this represents the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016. The September 2015 stock options are not included as the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016 is less than the exercise price of \$3.48 per share.
- Includes the unvested restricted stock issued in September 2012, June 2014, and June 2015. For the unvested restricted stock, this represents the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016. The March 2012 stock options, September 2012 stock options, June 2014 stock options, and the June 2015 stock options are not included as the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016 is less than the exercise price of \$16.11 per share, \$14.25 per share, \$4.33 per share, and \$5.86 per share, respectively.
   Includes the unvested restricted stock issued in May 2013, June 2014, and June 2015. For the unvested restricted stock, this represents the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016. The
- Includes the unvested restricted stock issued in May 2013, June 2014, and June 2015. For the unvested restricted stock, this represents the fair market value of \$2.51 per share as of January 30, 2016 is less than the exercise price of \$9.21 per share, \$4.33 per share, and \$5.86, respectively.
- Mr. James resigned as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer on September 3, 2015. In connection with such resignation, Mr. James received base salary continuation for the six month period following his resignation and a lump sum payment of \$7,500. All unvested restricted stock and unvested stock options were forfeited on September 3, 2015 or expired unused

#### **Director Compensation**

Messrs. Kasen and Shea each receive an annual fee in the amount of \$50,000 as consideration for serving on our Board. Mr. Tuchman receives an annual fee in the amount of \$60,500 as consideration for serving on our Board and as Chairman of the Audit Committee. Mr. King receives an annual fee in the amount of \$100,000 as consideration for serving as our Chairman of the Board of Directors and a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Messrs. Kasen, Shea, Tuchman and King also individually received a restricted stock award of 1,500 shares which vest at a rate of 33 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% per year over three years, commencing on the first anniversary of the grant date and ending on the third anniversary of the grant date. Due to their association with Sun Capital, Messrs. Brody, Urbanek and Roach did not receive any compensation for their service as members of our Board during fiscal year 2015. Mr. Hall was not paid any additional compensation for serving on our Board. See "Compensation Tables—Summary Compensation Table" for a description of the compensation Mr. Hall earned during fiscal year 2015 as our President and Chief Executive Officer. All of our directors are reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending any meetings of the Board or any committee thereof.

#### Director and Officer Indemnification and Limitation of Liability

The Company's Bylaws provide that we will indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware General Corporation Law. In addition, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that our directors will not be liable for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty, except as otherwise provided by Delaware law.

There is no pending litigation or proceeding naming any of our directors or officers to which indemnification is being sought, and we are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation that may result in claims for indemnification by any director or officer.

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The following table sets forth the names, ages (as of April 25, 2016) and titles of our current executive officers.

Name	Age	Position
Andrew T. Hall	55	President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary
James B. Brown	48	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary
Lisa C. Evans	61	Executive Vice President and Chief Merchandising Officer
Roger L. Glenn	58	Senior Vice President of Human Resources
Richard H. Heyman	55	Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer
Amy S. Myers	46	Senior Vice President of Marketing

For information about Andrew T. Hall, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary, please see "Proposal No. 1—Election of Directors."

*James B. Brown* joined the Company in September 2015 as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary. Prior to joining Gordmans, Mr. Brown was the Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Secretary of Hancock Fabrics, Inc. from February 2013 to September 2015. His work experience also includes various positions with Fred's, Inc., including as Senior Vice President—Finance from November 2011 to February 2013, Vice President, Planning and Analysis from June 2008 to November 2011 and Assistant Controller from February 2006 to May 2008.

Lisa C. Evans joined Gordmans in January 2015 as Executive Vice President and Chief Merchandising Officer. Prior to joining Gordmans, Ms. Evans was employed with Carter's, Inc. from 2009 to 2014, where she most recently served as Executive Vice President and Brand Leader. Ms. Evans also worked for Macy's from 2006 to 2009, most recently serving as Senior Vice President and General Merchandising Manager, and has had a variety of senior merchandising leadership roles with the Kaufmann's and Foley's divisions of the former May Company.

**Roger L. Glenn** joined Gordmans in 2012 as Senior Vice President of Human Resources. Prior to joining Gordmans, Mr. Glenn was employed with Safeway, Inc. from 1998 to 2011, where he most recently served as Group Vice President of Human Resources. He also held various other Human Resources leadership positions at Safeway in the Pleasanton, California area. Mr. Glenn held Human Resources leadership positions with Thorn Americas from 1997 to 1998 and Mervyns from 1983 to 1997.

**Richard H. Heyman** joined Gordmans in 2009 and is Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer. Prior to joining Gordmans, Mr. Heyman was Vice President of Information Technology for Pamida Stores from 2007 to 2008 and Project Director at Distributed Intelligence Systems, Inc. from 2004 to 2007. Mr. Heyman also founded a retail systems and consulting company, Sirius Retail, and served as its President and Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to 2004. He held the position of Vice President of Information Technology and Strategic Planning for Baker's Supermarkets while with this company from 1985 to 1999.

Amy S. Myers joined Gordmans in July 2014 as Senior Vice President of Marketing. Prior to joining Gordmans, Ms. Myers was employed with Things Remembered from 2006 to 2014 where she most recently served as Vice President—Creative Services. She also held various marketing positions at Shop at Home TV and Kraft Foods and managed the statistics, circulation and promotions departments at Spiegel, Inc.

#### **Family Relationships**

There are no family relationships between any of our directors or executive officers.

#### CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS

#### Statement of Policy Regarding Transactions with Related Persons

We have adopted a written statement of policy with respect to related party transactions, which is administered by our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Under our related party transaction policy, a "Related Party Transaction" is any transaction, arrangement or relationship between us or any of our subsidiaries and a Related Person not including any transactions involving less than \$120,000 when aggregated with all similar transactions, or transactions that have received pre-approval of our Audit Committee. A "Related Person" is any of our executive officers, directors or director nominees, any stockholder beneficially owning in excess of 5% of our stock or securities exchangeable for our stock, any immediate family member of any of the foregoing persons, and any firm, corporation or other entity in which any of the foregoing persons is an executive officer, a partner or principal or in a similar position or in which such person has a 5% or greater beneficial ownership interest in such entity.

Pursuant to our related party transaction policy, a Related Party Transaction may only be consummated or may only continue if:

- our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee approves or ratifies such transaction in accordance with the terms of the policy; or
- the chair of our Audit Committee pre-approves or ratifies such transaction and the amount involved in the transaction is less than \$120,000, provided that for the Related Party Transaction to continue it must be approved by our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

If advance approval of a Related Party Transaction is not feasible, then that Related Party Transaction will be considered and, if our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee determines it to be appropriate, ratified, at its next regularly scheduled meeting. If we decide to proceed with a Related Party Transaction without advance approval, then the terms of such Related Party Transaction must permit termination by us without further material obligation in the event ratification is not forthcoming at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Transactions with Related Persons, though not classified as Related Party Transactions by our related party transaction policy and thus not subject to its review and approval requirements, may still need to be disclosed if required by the applicable securities laws, rules and regulations.

#### **Sun Capital Services Agreement**

In connection with our initial public offering, we entered into a Services Agreement with Sun Capital Management to (i) reimburse Sun Capital Management for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in providing consulting services to us and (ii) provide Sun Capital Management with customary indemnification for any such services. We reimbursed Sun Capital Management \$37 thousand in fiscal year 2015 for expenses under this Services Agreement.

#### **Registration Agreement**

We are party to a registration agreement with Sun Gordmans, LP ("Sun Gordmans") and certain other investors identified on the signature pages thereto, pursuant to which Sun Gordmans has the right, on an unlimited number of occasions, to demand that we register shares of our common stock under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), subject to certain limitations. In addition, the parties thereto are entitled to piggyback registration rights with respect to the registration of shares of our common stock. In the event that we

propose to register any shares under the Securities Act either for our own account or for the account of any of our stockholders, the parties thereto having piggyback registration rights are entitled to receive notice of such registration and to include additional shares of our common stock in any such registration, subject to customary cutbacks and other limitations.

These registration rights are subject to conditions and limitations, among them the right of the underwriters of an offering to limit the number of shares of our common stock held by such stockholders to be included in such registration. We are generally required to bear all expenses of such registration (other than underwriting discounts and commissions). We, Sun Gordmans and the other investors party to the registration agreement have agreed to not affect any public sale or distribution of our equity securities (including sales pursuant to Rule 144) during the period commencing seven days before the effective date of a registration statement and ending 90 days thereafter, unless the underwriters managing the registered public offering otherwise agree. In connection with each of these registrations, we have agreed to indemnify the holders of registrable securities against certain liabilities under the Securities Act.

In May 2012, the Company filed a shelf registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, pursuant to which we, Sun Gordmans, LP and other stockholders named in the registration statement can sell shares of common stock.

#### **Employment and Other Agreements with Management**

We were party to an employment agreement with Mr. James, our former Semior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary, and are party to a severance agreement with each of our other NEOs as well as with Mr. Heyman, Mr. Glenn and Ms. Myers. For more information regarding these agreements with our NEOs, see "Executive Compensation—Compensation Tables—Agreements with, and Potential Payments to, Named Executive Officers."

#### **Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation**

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that for so long as affiliates of Sun Capital own 30% or more of our outstanding shares of common stock, they will have the right to designate a majority of our Board. For so long as Sun Capital has the right to designate a majority of our Board, the directors designated by affiliates of Sun Capital are expected to constitute a majority of each committee of our Board (other than the Audit Committee) and the chairman of each of the committees (other than the Audit Committee) is expected to be a director serving on such committee who is selected by affiliates of Sun Capital, provided that, at such time as we are not a "controlled company" under the NASDAQ Stock Market corporate governance standards, our committee membership will comply with all applicable requirements of those standards and a majority of our Board of Directors will be "independent directors," as defined under the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market.

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

The following table and accompanying footnotes show information regarding the beneficial ownership of shares of our common stock as of April 21, 2016 for:

- each person who is known by us to own beneficially more than 5% of our common stock (based on their public filings with the SEC as of April 21, 2016);
- · each director and nominee for director and each of our NEOs; and
- all current members of our Board and executive officers as a group.

Beneficial ownership for the purposes of the following table is determined in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. These rules generally provide that a person is the beneficial owner of securities if such person has or shares the power to vote or direct the voting thereof, or to dispose or direct the disposition thereof or has the right to acquire such powers within 60 days. Common stock subject to options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of April 21, 2016 are deemed to be outstanding and beneficially owned by the person holding the options. These shares, however, are not deemed outstanding for the purposes of computing the percentage ownership of any other person. Percentage of beneficial ownership is based on 19,653,993 shares of common stock outstanding as of April 21, 2016. Except as disclosed in the footnotes to this table and subject to applicable community property laws, we believe that each stockholder identified in the table possesses sole voting and investment power over all shares of common stock shown as beneficially owned by the stockholder.

Name	Number of Shares	Percent (%)
5% Stockholders:		
Sun Gordmans, LP (1)	9,873,719	50.2
H.I.G. Sun Partners, Inc. (2)	12,163	*
Named Executive Officers and Directors:		
Andrew T. Hall (3)	155,300	*
T. Scott King <sup>(4)</sup>	51,500	*
Michael D. James (5)	<u> </u>	*
James B. Brown (6)	10,000	*
Tracie L. Wickenhauser <sup>(7)</sup>	_	*
Lisa C. Evans <sup>(8)</sup>	55,600	*
Mark E. Brody (9)	<u> </u>	*
Casey C. Lanza <sup>(9)</sup> Brian J. Urbanek <sup>(9)</sup>	_	*
Brian J. Urbanek <sup>(9)</sup>	_	*
Stewart M. Kasen (10)	6,500	*
Donald V. Roach <sup>(9)</sup>	<u> </u>	*
James A. Shea (11)	4,000	*
Kenneth I. Tuchman <sup>(12)</sup>	9,000	*
Matthew N. Garff <sup>(9)</sup>	_	*
Geoff B. Ayoub (13)	53,315	*
All Named Executive Officers and Directors as a group (12 persons)	345,215	1.7

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates less than one percent.

(2) Sun Gordmans has the power to vote the shares held by H.I.G. Sun Partners, Inc. The business address for H.I.G. Sun Partners, Inc. is 1001 Brickell Bay Drive, 27 th Floor, Miami, FL 33131.

<sup>(1)</sup> Sun Gordmans is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sun Capital Partners V, L.P. Messrs. Marc J. Leder and Rodger R. Krouse each own 50% of the membership interests in Sun Capital Partners V, Ltd. ("Sun Partners V Ltd"), which in turn is the general partner of Sun Capital Advisors V, L.P. ("Sun Advisors V"), which in turn is the general partner of Sun Capital Partners V LP"). As a result, Messrs. Leder and Krouse, Sun Partners V Ltd, Sun Advisors V and Sun Partners V LP may be deemed to have indirect beneficial ownership of the securities owned directly by Sun Gordmans. Each of Messrs. Leder and Krouse, Sun Partners V Ltd, Sun Advisors V and Sun Partners V LP expressly disclaim beneficial ownership of any securities in which they do not have a pecuniary interest. The business address for Sun Gordmans is c/o Sun Capital Partners, Inc., 5200 Town Center Circle, Suite 600, Boca Raton, FL 33486.

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes 100,000 shares of common stock, 30,300 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015 and 25,000 stock options currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of April 25, 2016.

- Includes 50,000 shares of common stock and 1,500 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in August 2015.
- Mr. James resigned effective September 3, 2015. On that date, Mr. James beneficially owned 140,184 shares and the Company does not have any more recent information on Mr. James's shares beneficially
- Includes 4,000 shares of common stock and 6,000 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in September 2015.

  Ms. Wickenhauser resigned effective February 4, 2016. On that date, Ms. Wickenhauser beneficially owned 86,861 shares and the Company does not have any more recent information on Ms. Wickenhauser's shares beneficially owned. (7)
- Includes 29,800 shares of common stock, 8,300 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015 and 17,500 stock options currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of April 25, 2016.
- Messrs. Garff, Lanza, Roach, Urbanek and Brody are employees of Sun Capital, an affiliate of Sun Gordmans. However, Messrs. Garff, Lanza, Roach, Urbanek and Brody are not the beneficial owners of the stock held by Sun Gordmans. Messrs. Urbanek and Brody resigned from the Board, effective April 15, 2016. Includes 5,000 shares of common stock, 1,500 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015.
- Includes 2,500 shares of common stock, 1,500 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015.
- Includes 7,500 shares of common stock, 1,500 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015.
- (13) Includes 4,795 shares of common stock, 2,100 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in May 2013, 12,320 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in June 2014, 5,100 shares of unvested restricted stock issued in June 2015 and 29,000 stock options currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2016.

#### SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

The Company's directors, executive officers and beneficial owners of 10% or more of our common stock are required under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership of the Company's common stock with the SEC. Based solely on our review of the copies of such reports received by us, or written representations from certain reporting persons, we believe that for fiscal year 2015 all reporting persons complied with Section 16(a) filing requirements.

#### REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The information contained in the following report of Gordmans' Audit Committee is not considered to be "soliciting material," "filed" or incorporated by reference in any past or future filing by Gordmans under the Exchange Act or the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless and only to the extent that Gordmans specifically incorporates it by reference.

The Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities relating to the integrity of our financial statements, compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the independent registered public accounting firm qualifications, independence and performance, the effectiveness of the corporate compliance program and such other duties as directed by the Board of Directors. The Committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors.

The Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016 with the Company's management. In addition, the Committee has discussed with Grant Thornton LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, the matters required to be discussed by the applicable Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and Securities and Exchange Commission requirements.

Based on the Committee's review and discussions noted above, the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Company's audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

This report is submitted by all current members of the Audit Committee.

Respectfully submitted, The Audit Committee

Kenneth I. Tuchman, Chair Stewart M. Kasen James A. Shea

#### PROPOSAL NO. 2 — RATIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

Our Audit Committee has appointed Grant Thornton LLP to be our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2016. The stockholders are being asked to ratify this appointment at the Annual Meeting. We do not expect representatives of Grant Thornton LLP to be present at the Annual Meeting.

The following table sets forth the fees for services provided by Grant Thornton in fiscal years 2015 and 2014.

	Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2014		
Audit Fees	\$ 741,500	\$ 712,197		
Audit-Related Fees	_	_		
Tax Fees	_	_		
All Other Fees				
Total of All Fees	\$ 741,500	\$ 712,197		

Audit Fees. Audit Fees include fees billed for professional services rendered in connection with the audit of our consolidated financial statements and the review of our interim consolidated financial statements included in quarterly reports, as well as fees for services that generally only the independent registered public accounting firm can reasonably be expected to provide, including comfort letters, consents, assistance with the review of registration statements filed with the SEC and consultation regarding financial accounting and/or reporting standards.

Audit-Related Fees. There were no amounts billed for audit-related services during fiscal year 2015 or fiscal year 2014.

Tax Fees. There were no amounts billed for tax-related services during fiscal year 2015 or fiscal year 2014.

The Audit Committee pre-approves the terms of all auditing services and the terms of any non-audit services which the independent registered public accounting firm is permitted to render under Section 10A(h) of the Exchange Act. Pursuant to our Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policy, the Audit Committee may delegate the pre-approval to one or more of its members, provided that such approvals are presented to the Audit Committee at a subsequent meeting.

The Audit Committee has adopted a written policy for pre-approvals. The policy provides that the Audit Committee must specifically pre-approve the terms of the annual audit services engagement and may pre-approve, for up to one year in advance, particular types of permissible audit-related, tax and other non-audit services. The policy also provides that the services shall be described in sufficient detail as to the scope of services, fee and fee structure, and the impact on auditor independence. The policy also provides that the Audit Committee should be mindful of the relationship between fees for audit and non-audit services. The Audit Committee has delegated this pre-approval authority to the Chairman of the Committee.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS VOTE <u>FOR</u> RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF GRANT THORNTON LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016.

#### STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2016 MEETING

We evaluate director nominees recommended by stockholders in the same manner in which we evaluate other director nominees. We have established through our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee selection criteria that identifies desirable skills and experience for prospective Board members, including consideration of the potential candidate's qualification as independent, as well as consideration of diversity, age, skills, expertise and experience in the context of the Board and other criteria determined by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee from time to time.

In accordance with Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act, any stockholder proposals intended to be included in the proxy statement for the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders of the Company must be received by the Company no later than December 30, 2016, and must otherwise comply with the SEC's rules, to be considered for inclusion in our proxy materials relating to such meeting.

In addition, our Bylaws establish advance notice procedures for (1) the nomination, other than by or at the direction of the Board, of candidates for election as directors and (2) business to be brought before an annual meeting of stockholders other than by or at the direction of the Board. Any stockholder who wishes to submit a proposal to be acted upon at next year's annual meeting or who proposes to nominate a candidate for election as a director must submit such notice in compliance with the procedures set forth in our Bylaws. Any such proposals, as well as any questions related thereto, should be timely submitted in writing to our Secretary at the address below. Our Secretary must receive this notice no earlier than February 2, 2017 and no later than March 4, 2017. Any such notice must include the information set forth in our Bylaws.

Stockholder notices should be sent to our Secretary at: Gordmans Stores, Inc., Attention: Secretary, 1926 South 67 th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68106. You may also contact our Secretary for a copy of the relevant provisions of our Bylaws regarding the requirements for making stockholder proposals and nominating director candidates.

#### OTHER MATTERS

As of the date of this proxy statement, we know of no business that will be presented for consideration at the annual meeting other than the items referred to above. If any other matter is properly brought before the meeting for action by stockholders, proxies properly provided to the Company will be voted in accordance with the recommendation of the Board or, in the absence of such a recommendation, in accordance with the judgment of the proxy holder.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The proxies being solicited hereby are being solicited by our Board. The cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by the Company. We have not retained an outside firm to aid in the solicitation. Officers and associates of the Company may, but without compensation other than their regular compensation, solicit proxies by further mailing or personal conversations, or by telephone, telex, facsimile or electronic means. We will, upon request, reimburse brokerage firms and others for their reasonable expenses in forwarding solicitation material to the beneficial owners of stock.

A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal year 2015 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is posted on our corporate website at <a href="https://www.gordmans.com">www.gordmans.com</a>. We are providing a copy without charge to each person from whom a proxy is solicited. To request an additional copy of the Annual Report, please write to Gordmans Stores, Inc., Attention: Investor Relations, 1926 South 67 th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68106.

By order of the Board of Directors

Judian Y. Ctree

Andrew T. Hall

President, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary

Omaha, Nebraska April 27, 2016

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for The Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held June 7, 2016.

This Proxy Statement and our 2015 Annual Report to Stockholders are available at http://investor.gordmans.com/financials.cfm

THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **GORDMANS STORES, INC.**

The undersigned appoints Andrew T. Hall and James B. Brown as proxies, with the power to appoint their substitutes, and authorizes them to represent and to vote, as designated on the reverse hereof, all the shares of common stock of Gordmans Stores, Inc. held of record by the undersigned at the close of business on April 21, 2016 at the Annual Meeting of Gordmans Stores, Inc. to be held on June 7, 2016 or at any adjournment thereof.

						icated in this		×
Thi	s proxy will be voted as directed, or if no direction is indicated, will be voted "FOR" Proposals 1 a	nd 2.						
The	Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR all the nominees listed below in Proposal 1 and a vote FOI	R Proposal 2.						
1.	Election of Directors:	For	Withhold					
	01–T. Scott King 02–Casey C. Lanza 03–Donald V. Roach							
					For	Against	Abstain	
2.	Ratification of the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounts and the Appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the Independent register and Independent register a	unting firm for fiscal y	ear 2016.					
Sig	nature			Date				
	Signature			_				

NOTE: Please sign as name appears hereon. Joint owners should each sign. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, trustee, or guardian, please give full title as such.