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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

**QUARTERLY REPORT  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended October 30, 2015

Commission File Number: 001-11421

**DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION**

*(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)*

**TENNESSEE**

*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**61-0502302**

*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)*

**100 MISSION RIDGE**

**GOODLETTSVILLE, TN 37072**

*(Address of principal executive offices, zip code)*

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (615) 855-4000**

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

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

Large accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

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

The registrant had 290,934,510 shares of common stock outstanding on November 27, 2015.

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PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES  
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
 (In thousands)

	October 30, 2015 (Unaudited)	January 30, 2015 (see Note 1)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 182,514	\$ 579,823
Merchandise inventories	3,101,908	2,782,521
Income taxes receivable	11,877	—
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	192,476	170,265
Total current assets	<u>3,488,775</u>	<u>3,532,609</u>
Net property and equipment	2,237,068	2,116,075
Goodwill	4,338,589	4,338,589
Other intangible assets, net	1,201,110	1,201,870
Other assets, net	22,751	19,499
Total assets	<u>\$ 11,288,293</u>	<u>\$ 11,208,642</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term obligations	\$ 1,358	\$ 101,158
Accounts payable	1,470,107	1,388,154
Accrued expenses and other	473,528	413,760
Income taxes payable	30,462	59,400
Deferred income taxes	16,128	25,268
Total current liabilities	<u>1,991,583</u>	<u>1,987,740</u>
Long-term obligations	3,105,332	2,623,965
Deferred income taxes	568,238	601,590
Other liabilities	279,547	285,309
Commitments and contingencies		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock	—	—
Common stock	254,697	265,514
Additional paid-in capital	3,095,790	3,048,806
Retained earnings	1,999,119	2,403,045
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(6,013)	(7,327)
Total shareholders' equity	<u>5,343,593</u>	<u>5,710,038</u>
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	<u>\$ 11,288,293</u>	<u>\$ 11,208,642</u>

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	For the 13 weeks ended		For the 39 weeks ended	
	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014
Net sales	\$ 5,067,048	\$ 4,724,409	\$ 15,081,624	\$ 13,970,529
Cost of goods sold	3,530,086	3,300,661	10,457,802	9,733,461
Gross profit	1,536,962	1,423,748	4,623,822	4,237,068
Selling, general and administrative expenses	1,113,103	1,029,605	3,295,957	3,034,691
Operating profit	423,859	394,143	1,327,865	1,202,377
Interest expense	21,394	21,835	63,669	66,700
Other (income) expense	326	—	326	—
Income before income taxes	402,139	372,308	1,263,870	1,135,677
Income tax expense	148,818	135,992	474,965	425,703
Net income	<u>\$ 253,321</u>	<u>\$ 236,316</u>	<u>\$ 788,905</u>	<u>\$ 709,974</u>
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.87	\$ 0.78	\$ 2.66	\$ 2.33
Diluted	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.78	\$ 2.65	\$ 2.32
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	292,037	303,080	296,307	305,142
Diluted	292,904	304,108	297,174	306,097
Dividends per share	\$ 0.22	\$ —	\$ 0.66	\$ —

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

(Unaudited)  
(In thousands)

	For the 13 weeks ended		For the 39 weeks ended	
	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014
Net income	\$ 253,321	\$ 236,316	\$ 788,905	\$ 709,974
Unrealized net gain (loss) on hedged transactions, net of related income tax expense (benefit) of \$128, \$428, \$847, and \$1,146, respectively	201	655	1,314	1,757
<b>Comprehensive income</b>	<b><u>\$ 253,522</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 236,971</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 790,219</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 711,731</u></b>

*See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.*

**DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Unaudited)  
(In thousands)

	For the 39 weeks ended	
	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014
<i>Cash flows from operating activities:</i>		
Net income	\$ 788,905	\$ 709,974
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash from operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	263,287	255,759
Deferred income taxes	(59,026)	(35,944)
Tax benefit of share-based awards	(28,569)	(11,659)
Loss on debt retirement, net	326	—
Noncash share-based compensation	28,890	27,698
Other noncash (gains) and losses	7,130	7,574
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Merchandise inventories	(317,273)	(239,302)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(24,242)	(29,479)
Accounts payable	75,880	100,510
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	58,701	71,035
Income taxes	(12,246)	(14,274)
Other	(1,220)	(1,345)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>780,543</u>	<u>840,547</u>
<i>Cash flows from investing activities:</i>		
Purchases of property and equipment	(386,886)	(288,537)
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment	813	1,588
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(386,073)</u>	<u>(286,949)</u>
<i>Cash flows from financing activities:</i>		
Issuance of long-term obligations	499,220	—
Repayments of long-term obligations	(502,120)	(51,914)
Borrowings under revolving credit facilities	1,302,100	1,023,000
Repayments of borrowings under revolving credit facilities	(914,100)	(1,023,000)
Debt issuance costs	(7,011)	—
Repurchases of common stock	(1,009,411)	(800,095)
Payments of cash dividends	(195,169)	—
Other equity and related transactions	6,143	(2,659)
Tax benefit of share-based awards	28,569	11,659
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>(791,779)</u>	<u>(843,009)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(397,309)	(289,411)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	579,823	505,566
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>\$ 182,514</u>	<u>\$ 216,155</u>
<i>Supplemental schedule of non-cash investing and financing activities:</i>		
Purchases of property and equipment awaiting processing for payment, included in Accounts payable	\$ 37,659	\$ 34,961

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**(Unaudited)**

**1. Basis of presentation**

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of Dollar General Corporation and its subsidiaries (the "Company") have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") for interim financial information and are presented in accordance with the requirements of Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Such financial statements consequently do not include all of the disclosures normally required by U.S. GAAP for annual financial statements or those normally made in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, including the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of January 30, 2015 which has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date. Accordingly, readers of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2015 for additional information.

The Company's fiscal year ends on the Friday closest to January 31. Unless the context requires otherwise, references to years contained herein pertain to the Company's fiscal year. The Company's 2015 fiscal year is scheduled to be a 52-week accounting period ending on January 29, 2016, and the 2014 fiscal year was a 52-week accounting period that ended on January 30, 2015.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Company's customary accounting practices. In management's opinion, all adjustments (which are of a normal recurring nature) necessary for a fair presentation of the consolidated financial position as of October 30, 2015 and results of operations for the 13-week and 39-week accounting periods ended October 30, 2015 and October 31, 2014 have been made.

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the condensed consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The Company uses the last-in, first-out ("LIFO") method of valuing inventory. An actual valuation of inventory under the LIFO method is made at the end of each year based on the inventory levels and costs at that time. Accordingly, interim LIFO calculations are based on management's estimates of expected year-end inventory levels, sales for the year and the expected rate of inflation or deflation for the year. The interim LIFO calculations are subject to adjustment in the final year-end LIFO inventory valuation. The Company recorded a LIFO provision (benefit) of \$(1.7) million and \$2.2 million in the respective 13-week periods, and \$(2.3) million and \$3.1 million in the respective 39-week periods, ended October 30, 2015 and October 31, 2014. In addition, ongoing estimates of inventory shrinkage and initial markups and

markdowns are included in the interim cost of goods sold calculation. Because the Company's business is moderately seasonal, the results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the entire year.

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued comprehensive new accounting standards related to the recognition of revenue, which specified an effective date for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption not permitted. In August 2015, the FASB deferred the effective date to annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, with earlier adoption permitted only for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. The new guidance allows for companies to use either a full retrospective or a modified retrospective approach in the adoption of this guidance. The Company is currently evaluating these transition approaches, as well as the effect and potential timing of adoption on its consolidated financial statements.

In April 2015, the FASB issued new accounting guidance related to the presentation of debt issuance costs and requires such costs to be presented as a deduction from the corresponding debt liability, consistent with the presentation of debt discounts and/or premiums. This guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. The guidance must be applied retrospectively to all periods presented within the financial statements. The Company adopted this guidance in the third quarter of 2015, which resulted in the reclassification of \$19.2 million and \$15.5 million of debt issuance costs (net of accumulated amortization) from Other assets, net to Long-term obligations on the condensed consolidated balance sheets as of October 30, 2015 and January 30, 2015, respectively.

## 2. Earnings per share

Earnings per share is computed as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	13 Weeks Ended October 30, 2015			13 Weeks Ended October 31, 2014		
	Net Income	Shares	Per Share Amount	Net Income	Shares	Per Share Amount
Basic earnings per share	\$ 253,321	292,037	\$ 0.87	\$ 236,316	303,080	\$ 0.78
Effect of dilutive share-based awards		867			1,028	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 253,321	292,904	\$ 0.86	\$ 236,316	304,108	\$ 0.78

  

	39 Weeks Ended October 30, 2015			39 Weeks Ended October 31, 2014		
	Net Income	Shares	Per Share Amount	Net Income	Shares	Per Share Amount
Basic earnings per share	\$ 788,905	296,307	\$ 2.66	\$ 709,974	305,142	\$ 2.33
Effect of dilutive share-based awards		867			955	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 788,905	297,174	\$ 2.65	\$ 709,974	306,097	\$ 2.32

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is determined based on the dilutive effect of share-based awards using the treasury stock method.

Share-based awards that were outstanding at the end of the respective periods, but were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because the effect of exercising such awards would be antidilutive, were 1.6 million and 1.0 million in the 2015 and 2014 13-week periods, respectively, and were 1.2 million and 1.4 million in the 2015 and 2014 39-week periods, respectively.

### **3. Income taxes**

Under the accounting standards for income taxes, the asset and liability method is used for computing the future income tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company's consolidated financial statements or income tax returns.

Income tax reserves are determined using the methodology established by accounting standards for income taxes which require companies to assess each income tax position taken using the following two-step approach. A determination is first made as to whether it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained, based upon the technical merits, upon examination by the taxing authorities. If the tax position is expected to meet the more likely than not criteria, the benefit recorded for the tax position equals the largest amount that is greater than 50% likely to be realized upon ultimate settlement of the respective tax position.

The Company's 2010 and earlier tax years are not open for further examination by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"). Due to the filing of an amended federal income tax return for the 2011 tax year, the IRS may, to a limited extent, examine the Company's 2011 income tax filings. The IRS, at its discretion, may also choose to examine the Company's 2012 through 2014 fiscal year income tax filings. The Company has various state income tax examinations that are currently in progress. Generally, the Company's 2011 and later tax years remain open for examination by the various state taxing authorities.

As of October 30, 2015, the total reserves for uncertain tax benefits, interest expense related to income taxes and potential income tax penalties were \$7.0 million, \$0.8 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, for a total of \$8.3 million. This total amount is reflected in noncurrent Other liabilities in the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

The Company believes it is reasonably possible that the reserve for uncertain tax positions may be reduced by approximately \$2.6 million in the coming twelve months principally as a result of the effective settlement of uncertain tax positions. As of October 30, 2015, approximately \$7.0 million of the reserve for uncertain tax positions would impact the Company's effective income tax rate if the Company were to recognize the tax benefit for these positions.

The effective income tax rates for the 13-week and 39-week periods ended October 30, 2015 were 37.0% and 37.6%, respectively, compared to rates of 36.5% and 37.5%, respectively, for the 13-week and 39-week periods ended October 31, 2014. Both the 13-week and 39-week effective income tax rates increased primarily due to reduced benefits associated with reductions in uncertain federal and state tax positions. While both year's income tax rates benefited by reductions in uncertain tax positions, the reductions recorded in the 2014 periods were greater than those recorded in the 2015 periods.



#### 4. Current and long-term obligations

Current and long-term obligations consist of the following:

(In thousands)	October 30, 2015	January 30, 2015
Senior unsecured credit facilities		
Term Facility	\$ 425,000	\$ 925,000
Revolving Facility	388,000	—
4.125% Senior Notes due July 15, 2017	500,000	500,000
1.875% Senior Notes due April 15, 2018 (net of discount of \$226 and \$294)	399,774	399,706
3.250% Senior Notes due April 15, 2023 (net of discount of \$1,830 and \$1,991)	898,170	898,009
4.150% Senior Notes due Nov 1, 2025 (net of discount of \$780)	499,220	—
Capital lease obligations	5,087	5,875
Tax increment financing due February 1, 2035	10,590	11,995
Debt issuance costs, net	(19,151)	(15,462)
	<u>3,106,690</u>	<u>2,725,123</u>
Less: current portion	(1,358)	(101,158)
Long-term portion	<u>\$ 3,105,332</u>	<u>\$ 2,623,965</u>

#### Borrowing Facilities and 2015 Refinancing

On October 20, 2015, the Company consummated a refinancing, pursuant to which the Company amended and restated its senior unsecured credit facilities (and refinanced all borrowings thereunder) and issued senior notes in an aggregate principal amount of \$500.0 million, net of discount totaling \$0.8 million. The amended and restated senior unsecured credit facilities (the “Facilities”) consist of a \$425.0 million senior unsecured term loan facility (the “Term Facility”) and a \$1.0 billion senior unsecured revolving credit facility (the “Revolving Facility”) which provides for the issuance of letters of credit up to \$175.0 million. The Facilities are scheduled to mature on October 20, 2020. The Company incurred \$2.6 million of new debt issuance costs associated with the refinancing of the Facilities.

Borrowings under the Facilities bear interest at a rate equal to an applicable interest rate margin plus, at the Company’s option, either (a) LIBOR or (b) a base rate (which is usually equal to the prime rate). The applicable interest rate margin for borrowings as of October 30, 2015 was 1.10% for LIBOR borrowings and 0.10% for base-rate borrowings. The Company must also pay a facility fee, payable on any used and unused commitment amounts of the Facilities, and customary fees on letters of credit issued under the Revolving Facility. As of October 30, 2015, the commitment fee rate was 0.15%. The applicable interest rate margins for borrowings, the facility fees and the letter of credit fees under the Facilities are subject to adjustment from time to time based on the Company’s long-term senior unsecured debt ratings. The weighted average all-in interest rate for borrowings under the Facilities was 1.36% as of October 30, 2015.

The Facilities can be voluntarily prepaid in whole or in part at any time without penalty. There is no required principal amortization under the Facilities. The Facilities contain a number of customary affirmative and negative covenants that, among other things, restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the Company’s and its subsidiaries’ ability to: incur additional liens; sell all or substantially all of the Company’s assets; consummate certain fundamental changes or change

in the Company's lines of business; and incur additional subsidiary indebtedness. The Facilities also contain financial covenants which require the maintenance of a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio and a maximum leverage ratio. As of October 30, 2015, the Company was in compliance with all such covenants. The Facilities also contain customary events of default.

As of October 30, 2015, under the Revolving Facility, the Company had outstanding borrowings of \$388.0 million, and borrowing availability of \$582.8 million. In addition, the Company had outstanding letters of credit totaling \$43.7 million, \$29.2 million of which were issued under the Revolving Facility.

The Company incurred a pretax loss of \$0.3 million for the write off of debt issuance costs associated with the refinancing of its credit facilities, which is reflected in Other (income) expense in the condensed consolidated statement of income for the 13 and 39-week periods ended October 30, 2015.

On October 20, 2015, the Company issued \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of 4.150% senior notes due 2025 (the "2025 Senior Notes"), net of discount of \$0.8 million, which are scheduled to mature on November 1, 2025. Interest on the 2025 Senior Notes is payable in cash on May 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing on May 1, 2016. The Company incurred \$4.4 million of debt issuance costs associated with the issuance of the 2025 Senior Notes. The net proceeds from the sale of the 2025 Senior Notes were used, together with borrowings under the Facilities, to repay all of the outstanding borrowings under the then-existing credit agreement and for general corporate purposes. In addition, the Company has \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of 4.125% senior notes due 2017 (the "2017 Senior Notes") which are scheduled to mature on July 15, 2017, \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 1.875% senior notes due 2018 (the "2018 Senior Notes"), net of discount of \$0.2 million, which are scheduled to mature on April 15, 2018; and \$900.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.25% senior notes due 2023 (the "2023 Senior Notes"), net of discount of \$1.8 million, which are scheduled to mature on April 15, 2023. Collectively, the 2017 Senior Notes, the 2018 Senior Notes, the 2023 Senior Notes and the 2025 Senior Notes comprise the "Senior Notes", each of which were issued pursuant to an indenture as supplemented and amended by supplemental indentures relating to each series of Senior Notes (as so supplemented and amended, the "Senior Indenture").

The Company may redeem some or all of its Senior Notes at any time at redemption prices set forth in the Senior Indenture. Upon the occurrence of a change of control triggering event, which is defined in the Senior Indenture, each holder of the Senior Notes has the right to require the Company to repurchase some or all of such holder's Senior Notes at a purchase price in cash equal to 101% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the repurchase date.

The Senior Indenture contains covenants limiting, among other things, the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries to (subject to certain exceptions): consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of the Company's assets; and to incur or guarantee indebtedness secured by liens on any shares of voting stock of significant subsidiaries.

The Senior Indenture also provides for events of default which, if any of them occurs, would permit or require the principal of and accrued interest on the Senior Notes to become or to be declared due and payable, as applicable.

## 5. Assets and liabilities measured at fair value

Fair value is a market-based measurement, not an entity-specific measurement. Therefore, a fair value measurement should be determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. As a basis for considering market participant assumptions in fair value measurements, fair value accounting standards establish a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between market participant assumptions based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity (observable inputs that are classified within Levels 1 and 2 of the hierarchy) and the reporting entity's own assumptions about market participant assumptions (unobservable inputs classified within Level 3 of the hierarchy).

In connection with accounting standards for fair value measurement, the Company has made an accounting policy election to measure the credit risk of any derivative financial instruments that are subject to master netting agreements on a net basis by counterparty portfolio. The Company has determined that the majority of the inputs used to value derivative financial instruments using the income approach fall within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. However, the credit valuation adjustments associated with derivatives may utilize Level 3 inputs, such as estimates of current credit spreads to evaluate the likelihood of default by the Company and its counterparties. Historically, the credit valuation adjustments have not been significant to the overall valuation of the Company's derivative positions. The Company does not have any fair value measurements categorized within Level 3 as of October 30, 2015.

(in thousands)	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Balance at October 30, 2015
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Long-term obligations (a)	\$ 2,276,411	\$ 823,734	\$ —	\$ 3,100,145
Deferred compensation (b)	24,281	—	—	24,281

(a) Reflected at book value in the condensed consolidated balance sheet as Current portion of long-term obligations of \$1,358 and Long-term obligations of \$3,105,332.

(b) Reflected at fair value in the condensed consolidated balance sheet as Accrued expenses and other current liabilities of \$5,984 and noncurrent Other liabilities of \$18,297.

## 6. Derivatives and hedging activities

The Company records all derivatives on the balance sheet at fair value. The accounting for changes in the fair value of derivatives depends on the intended use of the derivative, whether the Company has elected to designate a derivative in a hedging relationship and apply hedge accounting and whether the hedging relationship has satisfied the criteria necessary to apply hedge accounting. Derivatives designated and qualifying as a hedge of the exposure to changes

in the fair value of an asset, liability, or firm commitment attributable to a particular risk, such as interest rate risk, are considered fair value hedges. Derivatives designated and qualifying as a hedge of the exposure to variability in expected future cash flows, or other types of forecasted transactions, are considered cash flow hedges. Derivatives may also be designated as hedges of the foreign currency exposure of a net investment in a foreign operation. Hedge accounting generally provides for the matching of the timing of gain or loss recognition on the hedging instrument with the recognition of the changes in the fair value of the hedged asset or liability that are attributable to the hedged risk in a fair value hedge or the earnings effect of the hedged forecasted transactions in a cash flow hedge.

The Company may enter into derivative contracts that are intended to economically hedge a certain portion of its risk, even though hedge accounting does not apply or the Company elects not to apply the hedge accounting standards. Changes in the fair value of such derivatives are recorded directly in earnings.

#### **Risk management objective of using derivatives**

The Company is exposed to certain risks arising from both its business operations and economic conditions. The Company principally manages its exposures to a wide variety of business and operational risks through management of its core business activities. The Company manages economic risks, including interest rate, liquidity, and credit risk, primarily by managing the amount, sources, and duration of its debt funding and, from time to time, through the use of derivative financial instruments. Specifically, the Company may enter into derivative financial instruments to manage exposures that arise from business activities that result in the receipt or payment of future known and uncertain cash amounts, the value of which are determined primarily by interest rates.

In addition, the Company is exposed to certain risks arising from uncertainties of future market values caused by the fluctuation in the prices of commodities. From time to time the Company may enter into derivative financial instruments to protect against future price changes related to these commodity prices.

#### **Cash flow hedges of interest rate risk**

The Company's objectives when using interest rate derivatives are to add stability to interest expense and to manage its exposure to interest rate changes. To accomplish these objectives, the Company has from time to time used interest rate swaps as part of its interest rate risk management strategy. Interest rate swaps designated as cash flow hedges involve the receipt of variable-rate amounts from a counterparty in exchange for the Company making fixed-rate payments over the life of the agreements without exchange of the underlying notional amount. The Company also previously entered into treasury locks that were designated as cash flow hedges of interest rate risk prior to its April 2013 issuance of long-term debt.

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives designated and that qualify as cash flow hedges is recorded in Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (also referred to as "OCI") and is subsequently reclassified into earnings in the period that the hedged

forecasted transaction affects earnings. The ineffective portion of the change in fair value of the interest rate swaps, if any, is recognized directly in earnings.

The Company had interest rate swaps with a combined notional value of \$875.0 million designated as cash flow hedges of interest rate risk that expired on May 31, 2015. Such interest rate swaps were used to hedge the variable cash flows associated with existing variable-rate debt prior to their maturity. Amounts reported in Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) related to derivatives were reclassified to interest expense as interest payments were made on the Company's variable-rate debt.

In 2013, the Company recorded a loss on the settlement of treasury locks associated with the issuance of long-term debt which was deferred to OCI and is being amortized as an increase to interest expense over the period of the debt's maturity in 2023. During the 52-week period following October 30, 2015, the Company estimates that approximately \$1.3 million will be reclassified as an increase to interest expense related to the amortization of the loss associated with the treasury locks. All of the amounts reflected in Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in the condensed consolidated balance sheets for the periods presented are related to cash flow hedges.

The table below presents the fair value of the Company's derivative financial instruments as well as their classification in the condensed consolidated balance sheets as of October 30, 2015 and January 30, 2015:

(in thousands)	October 30, 2015	January 30, 2015
<b>Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments</b>		
Interest rate swaps classified as Accrued expenses and other	\$ —	\$ 1,173

The table below presents the pre-tax effect of the Company's derivative financial instruments as reflected in the condensed consolidated statements of comprehensive income for the 13-week and 39-week periods ended October 30, 2015 and October 31, 2014:

(in thousands)	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014
<b>Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships</b>				
Loss related to effective portion of derivatives recognized in OCI	\$ —	\$ 201	\$ 3	\$ 956
Loss related to effective portion of derivatives reclassified from Accumulated OCI to Interest expense	\$ 330	\$ 1,282	\$ 2,164	\$ 3,858

## 7. Commitments and contingencies

### Legal proceedings

In September 2011, the Chicago Regional Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC" or "Commission") notified the Company of a cause finding related to the Company's criminal background check policy. The cause finding alleges that the

Company's criminal background check policy, which excludes from employment individuals with certain criminal convictions for specified periods, has a disparate impact on African-American candidates and employees in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended ("Title VII").

The Company and the EEOC engaged in the statutorily required conciliation process, and despite the Company's good faith efforts to resolve the matter, the Commission notified the Company on July 26, 2012 of its view that conciliation had failed.

On June 11, 2013, the EEOC filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois entitled *Equal Opportunity Commission v. Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General* (Case No. 1:13-cv-04307) in which the Commission alleges that the Company's criminal background check policy has a disparate impact on "Black Applicants" in violation of Title VII and seeks to recover monetary damages and injunctive relief on behalf of a class of "Black Applicants." The Company filed its answer to the complaint on August 9, 2013.

The Court has bifurcated the issues of liability and damages for purposes of discovery and trial. Fact discovery related to liability is to be completed on or before February 16, 2016.

On July 29, 2014 and May 5, 2015, the court entered orders requiring the Company to produce certain documents, information, and electronic data for the period 2004 to present.

The Company believes that its criminal background check process is both lawful and necessary to a safe environment for its employees and customers and the protection of its assets and shareholders' investments. The Company also does not believe that this matter is amenable to class or similar treatment. However, at this time, it is not possible to predict whether the action will ultimately be permitted to proceed as a class or in a similar fashion or the size of any putative class. Likewise, at this time, it is not possible to estimate the value of the claims asserted, and, therefore, the Company cannot estimate the potential exposure or range of potential loss. If the matter were to proceed successfully as a class or similar action or the Company is unsuccessful in its defense efforts as to the merits of the action, the resolution of this matter could have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements as a whole.

On May 23, 2013, a lawsuit entitled *Juan Varela v. Dolgen California and Does 1 through 50* (Case No. RIC 1306158) ("Varela") was filed in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Riverside. In the original complaint, the *Varela* plaintiff alleges that he and other "key carriers" were not provided with meal and rest periods in violation of California law and seeks to recover alleged unpaid wages, injunctive relief, consequential damages, pre-judgment interest, statutory penalties and attorneys' fees and costs and seeks to represent a putative class of California "key carriers" as to these claims. The *Varela* plaintiff also asserts a claim for unfair business practices and seeks to proceed under California's Private Attorney General Act (the "PAGA"). The Company filed its answer to the complaint on July 1, 2013.

On November 4, 2014, the *Varela* plaintiff filed an amended complaint to add Victoria Lee Dinger Main as a named plaintiff and to add putative class claims on behalf of "key carriers"

for alleged inaccurate wage statements and failure to provide appropriate pay upon termination in violation of California law. The Company filed its answer to the amended complaint on December 23, 2014. The parties have been ordered to engage in informal discovery and mediation. A mediation was held on November 16, 2015, which was unsuccessful.

On January 15, 2015, a lawsuit entitled *Kendra Pleasant v. Dollar General Corporation, Dolgen California, LLC, and Does 1 through 50* (Case No. CIVDS1500651) (“Pleasant”) was filed in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Bernardino in which the plaintiff seeks to proceed under the PAGA for various alleged violations of California’s Labor Code. Specifically, the plaintiff alleges that she and other similarly situated non-exempt California store-level employees were not paid for all time worked, provided meal and rest breaks, reimbursed for necessary work related expenses, and provided with accurate wage statements and seeks to recover unpaid wages, civil and statutory penalties, interest, attorneys’ fees and costs. On March 12, 2015, the Company filed a demurrer asking the court to stay all proceedings in the *Pleasant* matter pending an issuance of a final judgment in the *Varela* matter. The court granted the Company’s demurrer and stayed proceedings until resolution of the *Varela* matter. Subsequently, the *Pleasant* plaintiff moved to transfer this matter to the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Riverside where the *Varela* matter is pending, which the Company opposed. The court denied the *Pleasant* plaintiff’s motion to transfer.

On February 20, 2015, a lawsuit entitled *Julie Sullivan v. Dolgen California and Does 1 through 100* (Case No. RG 15759417) (“Sullivan”) was filed in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Alameda in which the plaintiff alleges that she and other similarly situated Dollar General Market store managers in the State of California were improperly classified as exempt employees and were not provided with meal and rest breaks and accurate wage statements in violation of California law. The *Sullivan* plaintiff also alleges that she and other California store employees were not provided with printed wage statements, purportedly in violation of California law. The plaintiff seeks to recover unpaid wages, including overtime pay, civil and statutory penalties, interest, injunctive relief, restitution, and attorneys’ fees and costs.

On April 8, 2015, the Company removed this matter to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (Case No. 3:15-cv-01617-JD) and filed its answer on the same date. On April 29, 2015, the *Sullivan* plaintiff amended her complaint to add a claim under the PAGA. The Company’s response to the amended complaint was filed on May 14, 2015. The plaintiff’s motion for class certification is due to be filed on or before March 11, 2016. The Company’s response is due to be filed on or about March 25, 2016.

The Company believes that its policies and practices comply with California law and that the *Varela*, *Pleasant*, and *Sullivan* actions are not appropriate for class or similar treatment. The Company intends to vigorously defend these actions; however, at this time, it is not possible to predict whether the *Varela*, *Pleasant*, or *Sullivan* action ultimately will be permitted to proceed as a class, and no assurances can be given that the Company will be successful in its defense of these actions on the merits or otherwise. Similarly, at this time the Company cannot estimate either the size of any potential class or the value of the claims asserted in the *Varela*, *Pleasant*, or *Sullivan* action. For these reasons, the Company is unable to estimate any potential loss or range of loss in these matters; however, if the Company is not successful in its defense efforts, the

resolution of any of these actions could have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements as a whole.

From time to time, the Company is a party to various other legal actions involving claims incidental to the conduct of its business, including actions by employees, consumers, suppliers, government agencies, or others through private actions, class actions, administrative proceedings, regulatory actions or other litigation, including without limitation under federal and state employment laws and wage and hour laws. The Company believes, based upon information currently available, that such other litigation and claims, both individually and in the aggregate, will be resolved without a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements as a whole. However, litigation involves an element of uncertainty. Future developments could cause these actions or claims to have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flows, or financial position. In addition, certain of these lawsuits, if decided adversely to the Company or settled by the Company, may result in liability material to the Company's financial position or may negatively affect operating results if changes to the Company's business operation are required.

#### 8. Segment reporting

The Company manages its business on the basis of one reportable operating segment. As of October 30, 2015, all of the Company's operations were located within the United States with the exception of certain subsidiaries in Hong Kong and China and a liaison office in India, which collectively are not material to the condensed consolidated financial statements. The following net sales data is presented in accordance with accounting standards related to disclosures about segments of an enterprise.

(in thousands)	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014	October 30, 2015	October 31, 2014
Classes of similar products:				
Consumables	\$ 3,921,663	\$ 3,645,021	\$ 11,543,276	\$ 10,666,675
Seasonal	555,862	524,623	1,784,680	1,659,651
Home products	317,963	298,878	925,292	867,903
Apparel	271,560	255,887	828,376	776,300
Net sales	<u>\$ 5,067,048</u>	<u>\$ 4,724,409</u>	<u>\$ 15,081,624</u>	<u>\$ 13,970,529</u>

#### 9. Common stock transactions

On August 29, 2012, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a common stock repurchase program, which the Board has increased on several occasions. Most recently, on December 2, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a \$1.0 billion increase to the existing common stock repurchase program. Following such increase, as of December 2, 2015 a cumulative total of \$4.0 billion had been authorized under the program since its inception and \$1.2 billion remained available for repurchase. The repurchase authorization has no expiration date and allows repurchases from time to time in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. The timing and number of shares purchased depends on a variety of factors, such as price, market conditions, compliance with the covenants and restrictions under the Company's



debt agreements and other factors. Repurchases under the program may be funded from available cash or borrowings under the Facilities discussed in further detail in Note 4.

Pursuant to its common stock repurchase program, during the 39-week periods ended October 30, 2015, and October 31, 2014, the Company repurchased in the open market approximately 13.4 million shares of its common stock at a total cost of \$1.0 billion and approximately 14.1 million shares at a total cost of \$0.8 billion, respectively.

The Company paid quarterly cash dividends of \$0.22 per share during each of the first three quarters of 2015. On December 2, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors approved a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.22 per share, which is payable on January 6, 2016 to shareholders of record as of December 23, 2015. The declaration of future cash dividends is subject to the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and will depend upon, among other things, the Company's results of operations, cash requirements, financial condition, contractual restrictions and other factors that the Board may deem relevant in its sole discretion.

#### **10. Corporate restructuring**

On October 13, 2015, the Company implemented a restructuring of its corporate support functions, including the elimination of approximately 255 positions, substantially all of which were at the Company's corporate headquarters and effective immediately. The restructuring is part of a broader initiative aimed at improving efficiencies and reducing expenses.

During the third quarter of 2015, the Company incurred pretax expense of \$6.1 million associated with this restructuring for severance-related benefits. This expense is reflected in Selling, general, and administrative expenses on the Company's condensed consolidated statements of income for the 13-week and 39-week periods ended October 30, 2015. As of October 30, 2015, the remaining liability related to these charges is \$5.6 million. Additional severance-related benefits costs related to this restructuring subsequent to the third quarter of 2015, if any, are expected to be minimal.

## Review Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of  
Dollar General Corporation

We have reviewed the condensed consolidated balance sheet of Dollar General Corporation and subsidiaries (the Company) as of October 30, 2015, and the related condensed consolidated statements of income and comprehensive income for the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended October 30, 2015 and October 31, 2014, and the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the thirty-nine week periods ended October 30, 2015 and October 31, 2014. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management.

We conducted our review in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the condensed consolidated financial statements referred to above for them to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheet of Dollar General Corporation and subsidiaries as of January 30, 2015 and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for the fiscal year then ended (not presented herein) and in our report dated March 20, 2015, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet of Dollar General Corporation and subsidiaries as of January 30, 2015, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

December 3, 2015  
Nashville, Tennessee

## **ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.**

### **General**

This discussion and analysis is based on, should be read with, and is qualified in its entirety by, the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes, as well as our consolidated financial statements and the related Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations as contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 30, 2015. It also should be read in conjunction with the disclosure under "Cautionary Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" in this report.

### **Executive Overview**

As of October 30, 2015, we operate 12,396 stores located in 43 states, geographically concentrated in the southern, southwestern, midwestern and eastern United States. We offer a broad selection of merchandise, including consumable products such as food, paper and cleaning products, health and beauty products, pet supplies and tobacco products, and non-consumable products such as seasonal merchandise, home decor and domestics, and basic apparel. Our merchandise includes high quality national brands from leading manufacturers, as well as comparable quality and value private brand selections with prices at substantial discounts to national brands. We offer our customers these national brand and private brand products at everyday low prices (typically \$10 or less) in our convenient small-box locations, with selling space averaging approximately 7,400 square feet per store.

Because the customers we serve are value-conscious, many with low or fixed incomes, we have always been intensely focused on helping our customers make the most of their spending dollars. We believe our convenient store format and broad selection of high quality products at compelling values have driven our substantial growth and financial success over the years. Like other retailers, we have been operating for several years in an environment with ongoing economic difficulties and uncertainties. Our core customers are often the first to be affected by negative or uncertain economic conditions such as unemployment and fluctuating food, energy and medical costs, and the last to feel the effects of improving economic conditions. Although our customer has experienced some positive general economic factors since the middle of 2014, such as lower gasoline prices and unemployment rates, these factors have been inconsistent and their duration is unknown.

Our operating priorities continue to evolve as we consistently strive to improve our performance while retaining our customer-centric focus. We are keenly focused on executing the following priorities: 1) driving profitable sales growth, 2) capturing growth opportunities, 3) enhancing our position as a low cost operator, and 4) investing in our people as a competitive advantage.

We seek to drive profitable sales growth through initiatives such as improvement in our in-stock position, as well as an ongoing focus on enhancing our margins while maintaining both everyday low price and affordability.

- Improving our in-stock position is designed to ensure the right products are available on the shelf when our customers shop in our stores. To support this initiative and improve overall customer satisfaction, we are selectively investing incremental labor hours in those stores where we believe such increases will generate positive financial returns. As of the end of the 2015 third quarter, this retail labor hour investment has been implemented across nearly 2,400 stores with additional stores scheduled to receive this investment during the 2015 fourth quarter. We have a very disciplined approach to this labor investment and are able to quickly evaluate whether it delivers on our profitability expectations, reallocating resources as necessary.
- We demonstrate our commitment to the affordability needs of our core customer by pricing more than 75% of our stock-keeping units at \$5 or less as of the end of the 2015 third quarter. However, as we work to provide everyday low prices and meet our customers' affordability needs, we also remain focused on enhancing our margins through effective category management, inventory shrink reduction initiatives, private brands penetration, efforts to improve distribution and transportation efficiencies, global sourcing, and pricing and markdown optimization. With respect to category management, the mix of sales affects profitability because the gross margin associated with sales within our consumables category generally is lower than that associated with sales within our non-consumables categories. Even within each category, however, there are varying levels of gross margin associated with the specific items. With respect to inventory shrink reduction, the progress continues to be broad based year to date with shrink declining across all four product categories. For a discussion of the sales mix, as well as the results of certain other margin-related initiatives in the 2015 third quarter, see "Results of Operations" below.

The degree of success of these initiatives is often reflected in our same-store sales results and in the level of improvement in shopper frequency and item unit sales and average transaction amount. For the 2015 third quarter, we believe these ongoing initiatives helped to drive the same-store sales growth in all four of our product categories, reflecting increases in both customer traffic and average transaction amount for the 31<sup>st</sup> consecutive quarter when compared to the prior year quarter.

To support our other operating priorities we also are focused on capturing growth opportunities and innovating within our channel. We continue to expand our store count, opening 206 and 634 stores for the third quarter and 39-weeks ended October 30, 2015, respectively. We have also expanded our store remodeling efforts and have remodeled or relocated a total of 857 stores during such 39-week period. In fiscal 2015, we have plans to open 730 stores and to relocate or remodel 875 stores. Our store remodels typically optimize shelf space in many of our older, smaller stores and, in many instances, increase the number of coolers for refrigerated and frozen foods and beverages. We also have plans to accelerate store square footage growth to approximately seven percent in 2016 from six percent in 2015.

We have established a position as a low cost operator, continuously seeking ways to control costs that do not affect our customer's shopping experience. We continued to enhance this position during the 2015 third quarter as we reduced approximately 255 positions within our corporate support function as part of a broader zero-based budgeting initiative, streamlining this portion of our

business while also reducing expenses. In addition, at the store level, we remain committed to simplifying or eliminating various tasks so that those time savings can be reinvested by our store managers in other areas such as customer service, improved in-stock levels, and improved store standards. We will continue to seek additional opportunities to enhance our low cost position.

Our employees are a competitive advantage, and we are always searching for ways to continue investing in them. Our training programs are constantly evolving, as we work to ensure that our employees have the tools necessary to be successful in their positions. We invest in our employees in an effort to create an environment that attracts and retains talented personnel, as we believe, particularly at the store level, employees who are promoted from within generally have longer tenures and are greater contributors to improvements in our financial performance. Furthermore, we believe that reducing our store manager turnover likely results in improved store financial performance in areas such as shrink and sales. We have also implemented training programs for high potential employees, and a college assistance program for those who want to continue their formal education. We believe that our efforts will produce a more stable, engaged workforce.

The following include highlights of our 2015 third quarter results of operations compared to the comparable 2014 period in many of our key financial metrics. Basis points amounts referred to below are equal to 0.01% as a percentage of sales.

- Net sales increased 7.3% to \$5.07 billion. Sales in same-stores increased 2.3% driven by increases in customer traffic and average transaction amount. Average sales per square foot for all stores over the 52-week period ended October 30, 2015 was \$225.
- Gross profit, as a percentage of sales, was 30.3% in the 2015 period compared to 30.1% in the 2014 period, an increase of 19 basis points, due in part to an improved shrink rate and lower transportation costs.
- Selling, general and administrative costs (“SG&A”), as a percentage of sales, was 22.0% in the 2015 period compared to 21.8% in the 2014 period, an increase of 18 basis points, reflecting in part the costs of the corporate restructuring discussed above and increases in certain expenses including incentive compensation and repairs and maintenance.
- Interest expense decreased by \$0.4 million to \$21.4 million in the 2015 period due primarily to lower average interest rates.
- Net income was \$253.3 million, or \$0.86 per diluted share, in the 2015 period compared to net income of \$236.3 million, or \$0.78 per diluted share, in the 2014 period. Diluted shares outstanding decreased by 11.2 million shares in the 2015 period primarily as a result of share repurchases under our share repurchase program.

Additional highlights for the 39-week period ended October 30, 2015 include:

- Cash generated from operating activities was \$780.5 million for the 2015 39-week period, compared to \$840.5 million in the comparable 2014 period, with the change

being due primarily to increased inventory purchases. At October 30, 2015, we had a cash balance of \$182.5 million.

- Total cash dividends of \$195.2 million, or \$0.66 per share, were paid during the 2015 39-week period.
- Inventory turnover was 4.8 times on a rolling four-quarter basis. On a per store basis, inventories increased by 5.1% over the balances at October 31, 2014.
- During the 2015 39-week period, we opened 634 new stores, remodeled or relocated 857 stores and closed 27 stores, resulting in a store count of 12,396 as of October 30, 2015.

The above discussion is a summary only. Readers should refer to the detailed discussion of our operating results below for the full analysis of our financial performance in the current year period as compared with the prior year period.

## **Results of Operations**

*Accounting Periods.* We utilize a 52-53 week fiscal year convention that ends on the Friday nearest to January 31. The following text contains references to years 2015 and 2014, which represent the 52-week fiscal years ending and ended January 29, 2016 and January 30, 2015, respectively. References to the third quarter accounting periods for 2015 and 2014 contained herein refer to the 13-week accounting periods ended October 30, 2015 and October 31, 2014, respectively.

*Seasonality.* The nature of our business is seasonal to a certain extent. Primarily because of sales of holiday-related merchandise, sales in our fourth quarter (November, December and January) have historically been higher than sales achieved in each of the first three quarters of the fiscal year. Expenses, and to a greater extent operating profit, vary by quarter. Results of a period shorter than a full year may not be indicative of results expected for the entire year. Furthermore, the seasonal nature of our business may affect comparisons between periods.

The following table contains results of operations data for the most recent 13-week and 39-week periods of 2015 and 2014, and the dollar and percentage variances among those periods:

(dollars in millions, except per share amounts)	13 Weeks Ended		2015 vs. 2014		39 Weeks Ended		2015 vs. 2014	
	Oct. 30, 2015	Oct. 31, 2014	Amount change	% change	Oct. 30, 2015	Oct. 31, 2014	Amount change	% change
Net sales by category:								
Consumables	\$ 3,921.7	\$ 3,645.0	\$ 276.6	7.6%	\$ 11,543.3	\$ 10,666.7	\$ 876.6	8.2%
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>77.40%</i>	<i>77.15%</i>			<i>76.54%</i>	<i>76.35%</i>		
Seasonal	555.9	524.6	31.2	6.0	1,784.7	1,659.7	125.0	7.5
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>10.97%</i>	<i>11.10%</i>			<i>11.83%</i>	<i>11.88%</i>		
Home products	318.0	298.9	19.1	6.4	925.3	867.9	57.4	6.6
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>6.28%</i>	<i>6.33%</i>			<i>6.14%</i>	<i>6.21%</i>		
Apparel	271.6	255.9	15.7	6.1	828.4	776.3	52.1	6.7
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>5.36%</i>	<i>5.42%</i>			<i>5.49%</i>	<i>5.56%</i>		
Net sales	\$ 5,067.0	\$ 4,724.4	\$ 342.6	7.3%	\$ 15,081.6	\$ 13,970.5	\$ 1,111.1	8.0%
Cost of goods sold	3,530.1	3,300.7	229.4	7.0	10,457.8	9,733.5	724.3	7.4
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>69.67%</i>	<i>69.86%</i>			<i>69.34%</i>	<i>69.67%</i>		
Gross profit	1,537.0	1,423.7	113.2	8.0	4,623.8	4,237.1	386.8	9.1
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>30.33%</i>	<i>30.14%</i>			<i>30.66%</i>	<i>30.33%</i>		
Selling, general and administrative expenses	1,113.1	1,029.6	83.5	8.1	3,296.0	3,034.7	261.3	8.6
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>21.97%</i>	<i>21.79%</i>			<i>21.85%</i>	<i>21.72%</i>		
Operating profit	423.9	394.1	29.7	7.5	1,327.9	1,202.4	125.5	10.4
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>8.37%</i>	<i>8.34%</i>			<i>8.80%</i>	<i>8.61%</i>		
Interest expense	21.4	21.8	(0.4)	(2.0)	63.7	66.7	(3.0)	(4.5)
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>0.42%</i>	<i>0.46%</i>			<i>0.42%</i>	<i>0.48%</i>		
Other (income) expense	0.3	—	0.3	—	0.3	—	0.3	—
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>0.01%</i>	<i>0.00%</i>			<i>0.00%</i>	<i>0.00%</i>		
Income before income taxes	402.1	372.3	29.8	8.0	1,263.9	1,135.7	128.2	11.3
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>7.94%</i>	<i>7.88%</i>			<i>8.38%</i>	<i>8.13%</i>		
Income tax expense	148.8	136.0	12.8	9.4	475.0	425.7	49.3	11.6
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>2.94%</i>	<i>2.88%</i>			<i>3.15%</i>	<i>3.05%</i>		
Net income	\$ 253.3	\$ 236.3	\$ 17.0	7.2%	\$ 788.9	\$ 710.0	\$ 78.9	11.1%
<i>% of net sales</i>	<i>5.00%</i>	<i>5.00%</i>			<i>5.23%</i>	<i>5.08%</i>		
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.78	\$ 0.08	10.3%	\$ 2.65	\$ 2.32	\$ 0.33	14.2%

### 13 WEEKS ENDED OCTOBER 30, 2015 AND OCTOBER 31, 2014

*Net Sales.* The net sales increase in the 2015 quarter reflects a same-store sales increase of 2.3% compared to the 2014 quarter. Same-stores include stores that have been open for at least 13 months and remain open at the end of the reporting period. For the 2015 quarter, there were 11,551 same-stores which accounted for sales of \$4.8 billion. Increases in both customer traffic and average transaction amount contributed to the increase in same-store sales. We experienced same-store sales growth across all four product categories, with higher same-store sales increases in the consumables category compared to the non-consumable categories. Within the consumables category, the most significant growth in same-store sales occurred in candy and snacks, tobacco products and perishables. Within the non-consumables categories, the most significant growth in same-stores was due to sundries, housewares, and hardware, with ladies clothing exhibiting strong growth as well. The net sales increase was also positively affected by sales from new stores, partially offset by sales from closed stores.

*Gross Profit.* Gross profit increased by 8.0%, and as a percentage of sales increased by 19 basis points to 30.3% in the 2015 quarter as compared to the comparable 2014 period. An improved rate of inventory shrinkage and lower transportation costs were the primary factors in the improved performance, partially offset by a reduction in gross profit due to a change in our sales mix.

*SG&A.* SG&A was 22.0% as a percentage of sales in the 2015 quarter compared to 21.8% in the comparable 2014 period, an increase of 18 basis points. The 2015 quarter results reflect a charge of \$6.1 million related to the corporate restructuring, or 12 basis points as a percentage of sales, for severance-related benefits costs. The 2015 quarter results also reflect increases in store incentive compensation expenses, repairs and maintenance, as well as increased occupancy costs and advertising expenses. Partially offsetting these items were lower utilities costs as a percentage of sales and a reduction in employee benefits costs. The 2014 quarter results reflect expenses of \$8.2 million, or 17 basis points as a percentage of sales, related to an attempted acquisition that was not completed, partially offset by unrelated insurance proceeds of \$3.4 million or 7 basis points as a percentage of sales.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense decreased moderately by \$0.4 million to \$21.4 million in the 2015 period due primarily to lower average interest rates. Total outstanding debt (including the current portion of long-term obligations) as of October 30, 2015 was \$3.11 billion.

*Income Taxes.* The effective income tax rate for the 2015 period was 37.0% compared to 36.5% for the 2014 period which represents a net increase of 0.5 percentage points. The effective tax rate increase was primarily due to reduced benefits associated with changes in uncertain tax positions in the 2015 period as compared to the 2014 period. Both periods were negatively impacted by the expiration of the federal law authorizing the Work Opportunity Tax Credit or "WOTC." The WOTC credits were retroactively reenacted in the fourth quarter of our 2014 fiscal year for employees hired during the 2014 calendar year. For financial statement purposes, a change in income tax expense is recorded in the period in which the related law is enacted. Accordingly, the fourth quarter of 2014 reflected the full, favorable impact of the 2014 retroactive reenactment of WOTC. It is uncertain as to whether and, if so, when the WOTC credits will be retroactively renewed for 2015. The Company will receive credits in future periods for employees hired on or before December 31, 2014; however, the future period credit received will be significantly lower than what has been recognized in prior fiscal years without WOTC reenactment.

### **39 WEEKS ENDED OCTOBER 30, 2015 AND OCTOBER 31, 2014**

*Net Sales.* The net sales increase in the 2015 period reflects a same-store sales increase of 2.9% compared to the comparable 2014 period. In the 2015 period, our 11,551 same-stores accounted for sales of \$14.2 billion. Increases in customer traffic and average transaction amount contributed to the increase in same-store sales. The remainder of the net sales increase was attributable to new stores, partially offset by sales from closed stores.

*Gross Profit.* For the 2015 period, gross profit increased by 9.1%, and as a percentage of sales increased by 33 basis points to 30.7% over the comparable 2014 period. The gross profit rate increase in the 2015 period as compared to the comparable 2014 period primarily reflects lower transportation costs and an improved rate of inventory shrinkage.



*SG&A.* SG&A was 21.9% as a percentage of sales in the 2015 period compared to 21.7% in the comparable 2014 period, an increase of 13 basis points. The 2015 results reflect increased severance costs, the majority of which were related to the restructuring discussed above, as well as increases in incentive compensation expenses and repairs and maintenance expenses. Partially offsetting these items was a higher volume of cash back transactions resulting in increased convenience fees collected from customers. The comparable 2014 results reflect expenses of \$8.2 million related to an attempted acquisition that was not completed.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense decreased by \$3.0 million to \$63.7 million in the 2015 period due primarily to lower average debt balances in the 2015 period.

*Income Taxes.* The effective income tax rate for the 2015 period was 37.6% compared to 37.5% for the 2014 period which represents a net increase of 0.1 percentage points. The effective tax rate increase was primarily due to reduced benefits associated with changes in uncertain tax positions in the 2015 period as compared to the 2014 period. Both periods were negatively impacted by the expiration of the federal law authorizing the WOTC. The WOTC credits were retroactively reenacted in the fourth quarter of our 2014 fiscal year for employees hired during the 2014 calendar year. For financial statement purposes, a change in income tax expense is recorded in the period in which the related law is enacted. Accordingly, the fourth quarter of 2014 reflected the full, favorable impact of the 2014 retroactive reenactment of WOTC. It is uncertain as to whether and, if so, when the WOTC credits will be retroactively renewed for 2015. The Company will receive credits in future periods for employees hired on or before December 31, 2014; however, the future period credit received will be significantly lower than what has been recognized in prior fiscal years without WOTC reenactment.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

We believe our cash flow from operations and existing cash balances, combined with availability under our credit facilities discussed below and access to the debt markets will provide sufficient liquidity to fund our current obligations, projected working capital requirements, capital spending and anticipated dividend payments for a period that includes the next twelve months as well as the next several years. However, our ability to maintain sufficient liquidity may be affected by numerous factors, many of which are outside of our control. Depending on our liquidity levels, conditions in the capital markets and other factors, we may from time to time consider the issuance of debt, equity or other securities, the proceeds of which could provide additional liquidity for our operations.

#### *Facilities*

On October 20, 2015, we consummated a refinancing pursuant to which we amended and restated our senior unsecured credit facilities. The information contained in Note 4 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements under the heading “Borrowing Facilities and 2015 Refinancing” contained in Part I, Item 1 of this report is incorporated herein by reference. The amended and restated senior unsecured credit facilities (the “Facilities”) consist of a \$425.0 million senior unsecured term loan facility (the “Term Facility”) and a \$1.0 billion senior unsecured revolving credit facility (the “Revolving Facility”) which provides for the

issuance of letters of credit up to \$175.0 million. The Facilities are scheduled to mature on October 20, 2020.

Borrowings under the Facilities bear interest at a rate equal to an applicable interest rate margin plus, at our option, either (a) LIBOR or (b) a base rate (which is usually equal to the prime rate). The applicable interest rate margin for borrowings as of October 30, 2015 was 1.10% for LIBOR borrowings and 0.10% for base-rate borrowings. We must also pay a facility fee, payable on any used and unused commitment amounts of the Facilities, and customary fees on letters of credit issued under the Revolving Facility. The applicable interest rate margins for borrowings, the facility fees and the letter of credit fees under the Facilities are subject to adjustment from time to time based on our long-term senior unsecured debt ratings. The weighted average all-in interest rate for borrowings under the Facilities was 1.36% as of October 30, 2015.

The Facilities can be voluntarily prepaid in whole or in part at any time without penalty. There will be no required amortization under the Facilities. The Facilities contain a number of customary affirmative and negative covenants that, among other things, restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the Company's and its subsidiaries ability to: incur additional liens; sell all or substantially all of our assets; consummate certain fundamental changes or change in the Company's lines of business; and incur additional subsidiary indebtedness. The Facilities also contain financial covenants that require the maintenance of a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio and a maximum leverage ratio. As of October 30, 2015, we were in compliance with all such covenants. The Facilities also contain customary events of default.

As of October 30, 2015, under the Revolving Facility, the Company had outstanding borrowings of \$388.0 million, standby letters of credit of \$29.2 million, and borrowing availability of \$582.8 million. In addition, we had outstanding commercial letters of credit of \$14.5 million.

For the remainder of fiscal 2015, we anticipate potential borrowings under the Revolving Facility up to a maximum of approximately \$500 million outstanding at any one time, including any anticipated borrowings to fund repurchases of common stock.

#### *Senior Notes*

On October 20, 2015, we issued \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of 4.150% senior notes due 2025 (the "2025 Senior Notes"), net of discount of \$0.8 million, which are scheduled to mature on November 1, 2025. The information contained in Note 4 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements under the heading "Borrowing Facilities and 2015 Refinancing" contained in Part I, Item 1 of this report is incorporated herein by reference. In addition, we have \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of 4.125% senior notes due 2017 (the "2017 Senior Notes") which are scheduled to mature on July 15, 2017, \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 1.875% senior notes due 2018 (the "2018 Senior Notes"), net of discount of \$0.2 million, which are scheduled to mature on April 15, 2018; and \$900.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.25% senior notes due 2023 (the "2023 Senior Notes"), net of discount of \$1.8 million, which are scheduled to mature on April 15, 2023. Collectively, the 2017 Senior Notes, the 2018 Senior Notes, the 2023 Senior Notes and the 2025 Senior Notes

comprise the “Senior Notes”, each of which were issued pursuant to an indenture as supplemented and amended by supplemental indentures relating to each series of Senior Notes (as so supplemented and amended, the “Senior Indenture”). Interest on the 2017 Senior Notes is payable in cash on January 15 and July 15 of each year. Interest on the 2018 Senior Notes and the 2023 Senior Notes is payable in cash on April 15 and October 15 of each year. Interest on the 2025 Senior Notes is payable in cash on May 1 and November 1 of each year, commencing on May 1, 2016. The net proceeds from the sale of the 2025 Senior Notes were used, together with borrowings under the Facilities, to repay all outstanding borrowings under the then-existing credit agreement and for general corporate purposes.

We may redeem some or all of the Senior Notes at any time at redemption prices set forth in the Senior Indenture. Upon the occurrence of a change of control triggering event, which is defined in the Senior Indenture, each holder of our Senior Notes has the right to require us to repurchase some or all of such holder’s Senior Notes at a purchase price in cash equal to 101% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the repurchase date.

The Senior Indenture contains covenants limiting, among other things, our ability (subject to certain exceptions) to consolidate, merge, or sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets; and our ability and the ability of our subsidiaries to incur or guarantee indebtedness secured by liens on any shares of voting stock of significant subsidiaries.

The Senior Indenture also provides for events of default which, if any of them occurs, would permit or require the principal of and accrued interest on our Senior Notes to become or to be declared due and payable, as applicable.

*Contractual Obligations*

The amendments to the Facilities and the issuance of the 2025 Senior Notes discussed above resulted in changes to the contractual obligations reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2015. The following table summarizes our significant contractual obligations for long-term debt obligations and related interest as of October 30, 2015 (in thousands):

Contractual obligations	Payments Due by Period				
	Total	1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5+ years
Long-term debt obligations	\$ 3,123,590	\$ 215	\$ 900,770	\$ 814,080	\$ 1,408,525
Capital lease obligations	5,087	1,143	1,595	966	1,383
Interest (a)	535,248	89,513	148,138	122,134	175,463

(a) Represents obligations for interest payments on long-term debt and capital lease obligations, and includes projected interest on variable rate long-term debt, using rates as of October 30, 2015. Variable rate long-term debt includes the balance of the senior unsecured term loan and the revolving credit facility with a total outstanding balance of \$813 million and the balance of our tax increment financing of \$10.6 million.

### *Current Financial Condition / Recent Developments*

At October 30, 2015, we had total outstanding debt (including the current portion of long-term obligations) of approximately \$3.11 billion. We had \$582.8 million available for borrowing under our Revolving Facility at that date.

Our inventory balance represented approximately 54% of our total assets exclusive of goodwill and other intangible assets as of October 30, 2015. Our ability to effectively manage our inventory balances can have a significant impact on our cash flows from operations during a given fiscal year. Inventory purchases are often somewhat seasonal in nature, such as the purchase of warm-weather or Christmas-related merchandise. Efficient management of our inventory has been and continues to be an area of focus for us.

As described in Note 7 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements, we are involved in a number of legal actions and claims, some of which could potentially result in material cash payments. We also have certain income tax-related contingencies as disclosed in Note 3 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. Future negative developments pertaining to these legal actions and claims or the tax-related contingencies could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity.

In October 2015, Standard & Poor's raised our senior unsecured debt rating and our corporate debt rating to BBB, both with a stable outlook, and Moody's reaffirmed our senior unsecured debt rating of Baa3 and changed our outlook to positive. Our current credit ratings, as well as future rating agency actions, could (i) impact our ability to finance our operations on satisfactory terms; (ii) affect our financing costs; and (iii) affect our insurance premiums and collateral requirements necessary for our self-insured programs. There can be no assurance that we will maintain or improve our current credit ratings.

Unless otherwise noted, all references to the "2015 period" and the "2014 period" in the discussion of "Cash flows from operating activities," "Cash flows from investing activities," and "Cash flows from financing activities" below refer to the 39-week periods ended October 30, 2015 and October 31, 2014, respectively.

*Cash flows from operating activities.* Cash flows from operating activities were \$780.5 million in the 2015 period, which was \$60.0 million lower than the 2014 period. Changes in merchandise inventories resulted in a \$317.3 million decrease in the 2015 period compared to a \$239.3 million decrease in the 2014 period, and were a significant contributor to the overall change in cash flows from operating activities as described in greater detail below. In addition, changes in accounts payable resulted in a \$75.9 million increase in the 2015 period compared to a \$100.5 million increase in the 2014 period, due primarily to the timing of receipts and payments. An offsetting factor was increased net income due primarily to increased sales and operating profit in the 2015 period as described in more detail above under "Results of Operations."

On an ongoing basis, we closely monitor and manage our inventory balances, and they may fluctuate from period to period based on new store openings, the timing of purchases, and other factors. Merchandise inventories increased 11% in the 2015 period

compared to a 9% increase in the 2014 period. In the 2015 period compared to the 2014 period, changes in inventory balances in our four inventory categories were as follows: the consumables category increased by 15% compared to 13%; the seasonal category increased by 11% compared to 3%; the home products category increased by 15% compared to 7%; and apparel declined by 7% compared to a 1% increase. Factors impacting the increase in inventory include our efforts to improve our in-stock position, the timing of receipts, and sales performance.

*Cash flows from investing activities.* Significant components of property and equipment purchases in the 2015 period included the following approximate amounts: \$142 million for improvements, upgrades, remodels and relocations of existing stores; \$94 million for distribution and transportation-related capital expenditures; \$79 million related to new leased stores, primarily for leasehold improvements, fixtures and equipment; \$41 million for stores built by us; and \$26 million for information systems upgrades and technology-related projects. The timing of new, remodeled and relocated store openings along with other factors may affect the relationship between such openings and the related property and equipment purchases in any given period. During the 2015 period, we opened 634 new stores and remodeled or relocated 857 stores.

Significant components of property and equipment purchases in the 2014 period included the following approximate amounts: \$104 million for improvements, upgrades, remodels and relocations of existing stores; \$86 million related to new leased stores, primarily for leasehold improvements, fixtures and equipment; \$36 million for distribution and transportation-related capital expenditures; \$29 million for stores built by us; and \$28 million for information systems upgrades and technology-related projects. During the 2014 period, we opened 617 new stores and remodeled or relocated 874 stores.

Capital expenditures during 2015 are projected to be in the range of \$500 million to \$550 million. We anticipate funding 2015 capital requirements with existing cash balances, cash flows from operations, and if necessary, our Revolving Facility. As of October 30, 2015, we have significant availability under our Revolving Facility that can be used to fund capital requirements. As noted above, we plan to continue to invest in store growth through development of new stores and stores to be remodeled or relocated. Capital expenditures in 2015 are anticipated to support our store growth as well as our remodel and relocation initiatives, including capital outlays for leasehold improvements, fixtures and equipment; the construction of new stores; costs to support and enhance our supply chain initiatives including the construction of distribution centers; technology initiatives; as well as routine and ongoing capital requirements.

*Cash flows from financing activities.* Net borrowings under the Revolving Facility during the 2015 period were \$388.0 million, compared to net borrowings of zero during the 2014 period. During the 2015 and 2014 periods, we repurchased 13.4 million and 14.1 million outstanding shares of our common stock at a total cost of \$1.0 billion and \$800.1 million, respectively. During the 2015 period we paid cash dividends totaling \$195.2 million.

### *Share Repurchase Program*

On December 2, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a \$1.0 billion increase to our existing common stock repurchase program. Following such increase, our common stock repurchase program had a total remaining authorization of approximately \$1.2 billion at December 2, 2015. Under the authorization, purchases may be made in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time subject to market and other conditions, and the authorization has no expiration date.

### **ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK.**

There have been no material changes to the disclosures relating to this item from those set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2015, as supplemented by our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended July 31, 2015.

### **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.**

(a) *Disclosure Controls and Procedures.* Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report.

(b) *Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting.* There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f)) during the quarter ended October 30, 2015 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

### ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

The information contained in Note 7 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements under the heading “Legal proceedings” contained in Part I, Item 1 of this report is incorporated herein by this reference.

### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS.

There have been no material changes to the disclosures relating to this item from those set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2015.

### ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS.

The following table contains information regarding purchases of our common stock made during the quarter ended October 30, 2015 by or on behalf of Dollar General or any “affiliated purchaser,” as defined by Rule 10b-18(a)(3) of the Exchange Act:

#### Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share (\$)	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs(a)	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs(a) (\$)
08/01/15-08/31/15	1,200,000	74.53	1,200,000	399,653,000
09/01/15-09/30/15	2,567,900	72.29	2,567,900	214,007,000
10/01/15-10/30/15	—	—	—	214,007,000
Total	3,767,900	73.01	3,767,900	214,007,000

(a) A \$500 million share repurchase program was publicly announced on September 5, 2012, and increases in the authorization under such program were announced on March 25, 2013 (\$500 million increase), December 5, 2013 (\$1.0 billion increase) and March 12, 2015 (\$1.0 billion increase). Subsequent to the last period reported above, a \$1.0 billion increase to the share purchase program was publicly announced on December 3, 2015. Under the authorization, purchases may be made in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time subject to market and other conditions. This repurchase authorization has no expiration date.

### ITEM 6. EXHIBITS.

See the Exhibit Index immediately following the signature page hereto, which Exhibit Index is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

## CAUTIONARY DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

We include “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the federal securities laws throughout this report, particularly under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” included in Part I, Item 2, and “Note 7. Commitments and Contingencies” and “Note 4. Current and long-term obligations” included in Part I, Item 1, among others. You can identify these statements because they are not limited to historical fact or they use words such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “expect,” “believe,” “anticipate,” “project,” “plan,” “estimate,” “objective,” “intend,” “could,” “can,” “would,” “committed,” “are scheduled to,” “predict,” “seek,” “ensure,” “subject to,” “results,” or “continue,” and similar expressions that concern our strategy, plans, initiatives, intentions or beliefs about future occurrences or results. For example, statements relating to estimated and projected expenditures, cash flows, results of operations, financial condition and liquidity; plans and objectives for, and expectations regarding, future operations, growth or initiatives, including the number of planned store openings, remodels and relocations and store square footage growth, progress of labor investment initiatives, trends in sales of consumable and non-consumable products, results of the investment in our personnel and the levels of future costs and expenses; anticipated borrowing under certain of our credit facilities; and the expected outcome or effect of pending or threatened litigation or audits are forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may change at any time, so our actual results may differ materially from those that we expected. We derive many of these statements from our operating budgets and forecasts, which are based on many detailed assumptions that we believe are reasonable. However, it is very difficult to predict the effect of known factors, and we cannot anticipate all factors that could affect our actual results. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed in our forward-looking statements include, without limitation:

- economic conditions, including their effect on employment levels, consumer demand, disposable income, credit availability and spending patterns, inflation, commodity prices, fuel prices, interest rates, exchange rate fluctuations and the cost of goods;
- failure to successfully execute our strategies and initiatives, including those relating to merchandising, sourcing, inventory shrinkage, private brand, distribution and transportation, store operations, expense reduction and real estate;
- failure to open, relocate and remodel stores profitably and on schedule, as well as failure of our new store base to achieve sales and operating levels consistent with our expectations;
- levels of inventory shrinkage;
- effective response to competitive pressures and changes in the competitive environment and the markets where we operate, including consolidation;
- our level of success in gaining and maintaining broad market acceptance of our private brands;
- disruptions, unanticipated or unusual expenses or operational failures in our supply chain including, without limitation, a decrease in transportation capacity for overseas shipments, increases in transportation costs (including increased fuel costs and carrier rates or driver wages), work stoppages or other labor disruptions that could impede



the receipt of merchandise, or delays in constructing or opening new distribution centers;

- risks and challenges associated with sourcing merchandise from suppliers, including, but not limited to, those related to international trade;
- unfavorable publicity or consumer perception of our products, including, but not limited to, related product liability and food safety claims;
- the impact of changes in or noncompliance with governmental laws and regulations (including, but not limited to, healthcare, product safety, food safety, information security and privacy, and labor and employment laws, as well as tax laws, the interpretation of existing tax laws, or our failure to sustain our reporting positions negatively affecting our tax rate) and developments in or outcomes of private actions, class actions, administrative proceedings, regulatory actions or other litigation;
- natural disasters, unusual weather conditions, pandemic outbreaks, terrorist acts and geo-political events;
- damage or interruption to our information systems or failure of technology initiatives to deliver desired or timely results;
- ability to attract and retain qualified employees, while controlling labor costs (including healthcare costs) and other labor issues;
- our loss of key personnel, our inability to hire additional qualified personnel or disruption of executive management as a result of retirements or transitions;
- failure to successfully manage inventory balances;
- seasonality of our business;
- incurrence of material uninsured losses, excessive insurance costs or accident costs;
- failure to maintain the security of information that we hold, whether as a result of a data security breach or otherwise;
- deterioration in market conditions, including interest rate fluctuations, or a lowering of our credit ratings;
- our debt levels and restrictions in our debt agreements;
- new accounting guidance, or changes in the interpretation or application of existing guidance, such as changes to lease accounting guidance;
- factors disclosed under “Risk Factors” in Part I, Item 1A of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2015; and
- factors disclosed elsewhere in this document (including, without limitation, in conjunction with the forward-looking statements themselves) and other factors.

All forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by these and other cautionary statements that we make from time to time in our other Securities and Exchange Commission filings and public communications. You should evaluate forward-looking statements in the context of these risks and uncertainties. These factors may not contain all of the material factors that are important to you. We cannot assure you that we will realize the results or developments we anticipate or, even if substantially realized, that they will result in the consequences or affect us or our operations in the way we expect. The forward-looking

statements in this report are made only as of the date hereof. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as otherwise required by law.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized, both on behalf of the Registrant and in his capacity as principal financial officer of the Registrant.

DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION

Date: December 3, 2015

By: /s/ John W. Garratt  
John W. Garratt  
Chief Financial Officer

## EXHIBIT INDEX

- 4.1 Fifth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of October 20, 2015, between Dollar General Corporation and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Dollar General Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 15, 2015, filed with the SEC on October 20, 2015 (file no. 001-11421))
- 4.2 Form of 4.150% Senior Notes due 2025 (included in Exhibit 4.1) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Dollar General Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 15, 2015, filed with the SEC on October 20, 2015 (file no. 001-11421))
- 4.3 Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of October 20, 2015, among Dollar General Corporation, as borrower, Citibank, N.A., as administrative agent, and the other credit parties and lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to Dollar General Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 15, 2015, filed with the SEC on October 20, 2015 (file no. 001-11421))
- 10.1 Summary of Non-Employee Director Compensation (effective January 30, 2016)
- 10.2 Dollar General Corporation Executive Relocation Policy, as amended (effective September 22, 2015)
- 10.3 Employment Agreement, effective August 10, 2015, by and between Rhonda M. Taylor and Dollar General Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to Dollar General Corporation's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended July 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on August 27, 2015 (file no. 001-11421))
- 10.4 Employment Agreement, effective August 10, 2015, by and between Robert D. Ravener and Dollar General Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to Dollar General Corporation's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended July 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on August 27, 2015 (file no. 001-11421))
- 10.5 Employment Agreement, effective August 10, 2015, by and between John W. Flanigan and Dollar General Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to Dollar General Corporation's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended July 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on August 27, 2015 (file no. 001-11421))
- 10.6 Employment Agreement, effective August 7, 2015, by and between James W. Thorpe and Dollar General Corporation
- 10.7 Employment Agreement, effective June 15, 2015 and executed November 3, 2015, by and between Jeffery C. Owen and Dollar General Corporation
- 15 Letter re unaudited interim financial information

31	Certifications of CEO and CFO under Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a)
32	Certifications of CEO and CFO under 18 U.S.C. 1350
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

**Summary of Non-Employee Director Compensation  
(effective January 30, 2016)**

We do not compensate for Board service any director who also serves as our employee. We will reimburse directors for certain fees and expenses incurred in connection with continuing education seminars and for travel and related expenses related to Dollar General business.

Each non-employee director will receive payment (prorated as applicable), in quarterly installments, of the following cash compensation, as applicable:

- \$85,000 annual retainer for service as a Board member;
- \$27,500 annual retainer for service as Lead Director;
- \$22,500 annual retainer for service as chairman of the Audit Committee;
- \$20,000 annual retainer for service as chairman of the Compensation Committee;
- \$15,000 annual retainer for service as chairman of the Nominating & Governance Committee; and
- \$1,500 for each Board or committee meeting in excess of an aggregate of 16 that a director attends, as a member, during each fiscal year.

In addition, we grant annually to those non-employee directors who are elected or reelected at each applicable shareholders' meeting an equity award under our Amended and Restated 2007 Stock Incentive Plan with an estimated value of \$135,000 on the grant date. This entire value consists of restricted stock units payable in shares of our common stock ("RSUs"). The RSUs will vest as to 100% of the award on the first anniversary of the grant date. Directors may elect to defer receipt of shares underlying the RSUs. They may also elect to defer up to 100% of cash fees earned for Board service under the Non-Employee Director Deferred Compensation Plan filed as Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended October 31, 2014. Any new director appointed after the annual shareholders' meeting but before February 1 of a given year, will receive a full equity award no later than the first regularly scheduled Compensation Committee meeting following the date on which he or she is appointed. Any new director appointed on or after February 1 of a given year but before the next annual shareholders' meeting shall be eligible to receive the next regularly scheduled annual award.

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**DOLLAR GENERAL®**



EXECUTIVE RELOCATION POLICY



Global Mobility Solutions

Congratulations on your new assignment!

In addition to the challenges your new position brings, you and your family will encounter many changes as you leave familiar surroundings, find a new place to live and settle into your new location.

The relocation of employees contributes to the Company's ability to stay flexible and competitive. For that reason, we have partnered with Global Mobility Solutions (GMS), as well as a number of other top rate service providers, to provide you with a program of relocation support to reduce normal move disruptions, and enable you to get settled in your new home and job as quickly as possible.

This Relocation Guide outlines the services made available to you to help facilitate your move, including selling your current residence and finding a new community and home.

Please take the time to read through this guide and familiarize yourself with the policy and GMS relocation services before you begin planning your relocation. Recognizing that relocating can be a disruptive time, the Company, through your dedicated Relocation Coach will assist you and your family throughout your move.

Our best wishes for success in your new location!



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## BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

Policy Component	Description
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You are eligible for coverage under the relocation program described in this guide if you are classified as an active full-time current or newly-hired, salaried executive level employee or senior officer; homeowner or renter. It is your responsibility to work with the Sr. Manager Human Resources to monitor your eligibility for benefits and to ensure your status is accurately reflected in the payroll system.</li> <li><b>Note: Active Full-time (AF) means not L, LP, or T status.</b></li> </ul>
Miscellaneous Allowance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You will receive an Allowance of \$10,000 to cover expenses not provided elsewhere in the policy</li> <li>Such payment will not be grossed-up</li> </ul>
Home Finding Trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional assistance will be provided by GMS</li> <li>The Company will provide you with two home finding trips for up to seven days/six nights, for you, your spouse or one additional family member and for your children.</li> <li>Reimbursable expenses include reasonable costs associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Airfare or Mileage</li> <li>Lodging</li> <li>Meals (\$25/day/adult &amp; \$15/day/child)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Rental car (if airfare)</li> </ul>
Temporary Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional assistance will be provided by GMS</li> <li>The Company will provide you with temporary housing accommodations for up to 90 days</li> <li>Up to 14 days rental car if automobile is being shipped</li> </ul>
Home Sale Assistance: GPO/Amended Value Sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marketing Assistance</li> <li>Appraised Value Offer</li> <li>Amended Value Sale</li> <li>Independent Sale</li> </ul>
Renter Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lease Cancellation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to two months' rent if required to cover lease cancellation or lease break fees</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
New Home Purchase Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you decide to purchase a home in the new location, you will be reimbursed for normal and customary new home purchase closing costs</li> </ul>
Movement of Household Goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A professional van line will be selected and coordinated by GMS</li> <li>Van line will pack, load, transport, unload goods, and unpack, including normal appliance servicing</li> <li>The Company will provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Debris pick up</li> <li>Storage for up to 90 days</li> <li>Up to \$125,000 of valuation coverage</li> <li>Shipment for up to two automobiles if the distance to the new location is over 300 miles</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Final Trip to the Destination Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You and your family will be reimbursed for en route expenses from the departure location to the destination location. Reimbursable expenses include reasonable costs associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Airfare if vehicle(s) is/are shipped</li> <li>Lodging – 1 night in origin, en route</li> <li>Mileage – 1 vehicle if 1 is shipped or 2 vehicles if none are shipped</li> <li>Meals(\$25/day/adult &amp; \$15/day/child)</li> </ul> </li> <li>You must travel a minimum of 300 miles per day by the most direct route</li> </ul>

# INTRODUCTION

## *On the Move...*

This handbook has been designed to help you understand Dollar General's relocation program and to assist you and your family in relocating as quickly as possible with minimal inconvenience. You are encouraged to carefully read this handbook in its entirety. Recognizing that relocating can be a disruptive process, the Company and GMS will assist you and your family throughout your move.

## *Eligibility*

The relocation program was developed to facilitate the movement of active, full-time newly-hired and current, salaried, executive-level employees or senior officers who are requested to relocate by the Company and designated by the Company to receive the benefits described in this handbook.

In order to be eligible for relocation as described in this handbook, your relocation must meet the IRS 50-mile distance test. The distance between your former residence and your new job site must be at least 50 miles greater than the distance between your former residence and your former job site.

## *Family*

Your family members eligible for assistance under this policy include your spouse and your dependent household members. In the event an additional member of your household is asked to relocate by the Company, you are eligible to receive only one set of benefits.

## *Time Limit*

You are eligible for the benefits extended in this handbook for up to 12 months following your effective date of transfer. All expense reports related to your relocation are required to be submitted within 90 days of the date incurred within this 12-month period.

## *Disclaimer*

The Company has the sole right at any time to revise, amend or discontinue this policy. This policy shall not be considered or construed as an employment contract and does not constitute a guarantee of employment for any minimum or specified period of time.

## *Policy Exceptions*

If you feel an exception is needed, please submit your request in writing to your GMS dedicated Relocation Coach. They will review and forward your request to the Relocation Department at Dollar General for consideration. Upon initial receipt, the Relocation Department will present a recommendation along with facts to the appropriate senior level officer for final approval by the Board's Compensation Committee. Your dedicated Relocation Coach will communicate the decision to you.

# RELOCATION ADMINISTRATION

Upon notification of your relocation, your dedicated Relocation Coach will contact you and be your main point of contact throughout your move. Your dedicated Relocation Coach will guide you through each step of the relocation process, answer your questions, and help coordinate all aspects of your move. Listed below are highlights of the services your dedicated Relocation Coach will provide to you:

- general information
- expense report reimbursements
- disposition of your present home
- assistance in finding a new residence
- moving your household goods
- moving you and your family to the new location

We encourage you to become fully involved in your move and work closely with the professionals who have been made available to assist you throughout the relocation process. By working closely with your dedicated Relocation Coach, you will be able to effectively manage your move.

## *Forms to Complete*

Our goal is to have a relocation process that is as simple and easy to use as possible. Therefore, there are only two steps that you must complete before receiving your relocation benefits.

### **Step 1. Complete and return the Relocation Initiation Form**

The Relocation Initiation Form provides us with important information to pass on to the moving company and for relocation check/reimbursement requests.

### **Step 2. Complete and return the Employee Reimbursement Form.**

The Employee Reimbursement Form states that you have read Dollar General's Relocation policy and understand that you are responsible for any expenses not covered under the policy. This form may also have a reimbursement schedule you would follow to pay back a pro-rated share of your relocation benefits should you leave the company within a year of the date of your last relocation reimbursement or last relocation expense incurred by Dollar General.

**Both of these forms can be emailed or faxed to the following:**

Email: [Relocation@DollarGeneral.com](mailto:Relocation@DollarGeneral.com)

Fax: (615) 855-8144

## EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Most ordinary expenses involved in moving from one location to another are covered under this policy. Any questions of interpretation should be discussed with your dedicated Relocation Coach *before you take action*.

All relocation expenses must be submitted on the Relocation Expense Report Form (will be provided to you by GMS) and *must not* be combined with regular business expenses. In order to determine the federal and state tax liability for reimbursed expenses, all relocation expenses must be reported accurately.

Where relocation-related expenses are specifically reimbursable, consistent guidelines apply.

- All reimbursable expenses must be reasonable and appropriate.
- All relocation benefits are reflected in U.S. dollars.
- All reimbursable moving expenses must be incurred within 12 months from the effective date of employment or transfer and submitted for payment within 90 days from the date the expense is incurred.
- Only expenses specifically outlined in the policy will be reimbursed.
- You must submit original receipts for reimbursement. Your completed expense reports together with your original receipts should be forwarded directly to your dedicated Relocation Coach.
- It is important not to include any business expenses on relocation expense forms.

## RELOCATION AND TRANSITION EXPENSES

### *Miscellaneous Expense Allowance*



The Company will provide you with an allowance equal to \$10,000, to cover many of the incidental expenses not specifically reimbursed under this policy, which may occur as a direct result of your transfer. Some of these expenses may include:

- driver's licenses and automobile registrations in the new location,
- meals during temporary living,
- duplicate mortgage,
- utility deposits,
- shipment of pets,
- cleaning or maid service (new or old location),
- non-refundable tuition, memberships, club dues or subscriptions,
- piano tuning,
- tips to movers,
- drapery and carpet installation or alterations,
- television or cable installation or adjustments,
- overnight mail charges,
- tax consulting,
- items unique to your personal move not covered by this policy,
- disassemble/reassemble playground, gym equipment, swimming pools, and similar items.

For newly hired employees, a check will be processed and deposited into your account within 2 weeks after your start date.

#### Tax Assistance

Gross-up will not be provided for the Miscellaneous Expense Allowance.

#### *House Hunting*

Dollar General will provide you and your spouse or one additional household member and your children with two (2) house hunting/apartment hunting trips for a total of seven (7) days. The House Hunting Trip will include the following:

- Hotel accommodations for a maximum six (6) nights.
- Airfare or mileage reimbursement at current Company rate if personal vehicle is driven.
- Reimbursement for rental car for maximum of seven (7) days.
- Reimbursable meal expenses not to exceed \$25.00/day per adult, \$15.00/day per child (original receipts must be submitted).

#### Tax Assistance

Gross-up will be provided for residence hunting expenses.

#### *Temporary Living*

Temporary Living Assistance is intended only for short-term living arrangements at the new location. Dollar General will reimburse you for up to 90 days of temporary living expenses. Temporary living assistance includes the following:

- One bedroom fully furnished corporate apartment for employee only.
- If trailing family, a two bedroom fully furnished corporate apartment may be requested in lieu of a one bedroom.
- Reimbursement for full size rental car for a maximum of two (2) weeks.

If you require temporary living assistance please contact your dedicated Relocation Coach at least two weeks in advance. He or she will be happy to help you make arrangements and answer any questions you may have.

#### *Return Trip*

If you are required to report to work in your new location prior to your family's final move, you shall receive coverage of travel expenses for one (1) return trip home per month up to a total of 3 round trips during the temporary living period. One family member may visit you in the new location in lieu of a return trip.

#### Tax Assistance

Gross-up will be provided for temporary living and return trip expenses.

# HOME SALE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will provide you with the necessary expertise to facilitate the sale of your home through the services described below.

## *Home Eligibility*

A home eligible for home sale assistance is any completed single-family or two-family residence, including a condominium that is used as your principal residence and that is owned by you, your spouse, any of your dependents residing in the same household, or any combination of those persons at the time you are asked to relocate. This also includes land customarily considered part of a residential lot and all personal property normally sold with a residence according to local custom. If your home does not meet these eligibility guidelines, you may qualify for reimbursement of certain home sale closing costs and commission expenses if you sell your primary residence on your own.

Homes considered *ineligible* for home sale assistance (Guaranteed Buyout Offer/Buyer Value Option) include, but are not limited to, the following:

- cooperative apartments,
- mobile homes,
- vacation/secondary homes,
- investment properties,
- homes with excessive acreage (+5 acres),
- homes that are partially completed or under substantial renovation,
- homes ineligible for conventional financing,
- houseboats,
- homes deemed ineligible through building inspections, and
- vacant lots appraised as contributory value only.

If you have any questions regarding your home's eligibility, please contact your dedicated Relocation Coach prior to beginning the relocation process.

## *Overview*

### Marketing Your Home



You are required to speak with your dedicated Relocation Coach prior to taking any steps to list or market your home. You are required to market your home for a minimum of 90 days from the date your home is listed with an approved real estate agent.

The home sale process will begin with the appraisal and listing your home. Your dedicated Relocation Coach will help you select a qualified real estate agent and together they will determine selling strategies targeted to help you receive the best

possible offer for your home. The advantage to successfully marketing your home and selling to an outside buyer is that you may receive a greater cash return than the Appraised Value Offer.

### Appraised Value Offer

Two independent appraisers will appraise your home to determine the Appraised Value Offer. Your relocation coach will provide a list of ERC endorsed appraisers in your area to choose from. This offer will be your “safety net” providing you with a guaranteed price, should your home not sell on the open market. Your Appraised Value Offer will be available to you for 90 days.

### Amended Value Sale

If you receive a qualified offer on your home from an outside buyer you have an opportunity to “amend” the Appraised Value Offer from GMS to reflect your buyer’s offer.

### Marketing Assistance

As soon as the Company authorizes your relocation, your dedicated Relocation Coach will contact you to explain the first step—the listing, marketing and appraisal of your home. Placing your home on the market as advantageously as possible is a critical element in successfully marketing your home. Throughout the home sale process, your dedicated Relocation Coach will continuously track your agent’s efforts to market your home. The goal of these efforts is to help you obtain the best offer for your home within a reasonable time frame.

Your dedicated Relocation Coach’s objectives are to:

→ help you identify a qualified and active broker to assist you in marketing and listing your home in a highly effective manner;



→ work with your real estate agent to develop a strategic marketing plan to sell your home at the best possible market value;

→ in conjunction with your real estate agent, suggest any minor repairs and/or improvements that will increase the marketability of your home; and

→ work with you throughout the process of you selling your home.

### How the Marketing Process Works...

The following is a step-by-step process of marketing assistance services provided by your dedicated Relocation Coach.

### Agent Selection

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will place a referral with two (2) area real estate agents who will visit your home and prepare a complete Employee Relocation Council (ERC) Market Analysis. If you would like to designate a particular real estate agent that has not been recommended, please notify your dedicated Relocation Coach. As long as the real estate agent agrees to the program’s requirements, he or she will be able to work with you as one of your two selected agents. You may not utilize or ask to have qualified any real estate agent that is a family member; i.e., spouse, child, mother, father, brother, sister or in-laws. If you have no preference or are not familiar with local brokers, your dedicated Relocation Coach will assist you in the selection.



**Listing Your Home**

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will ask you to select one real estate agent from the two you have interviewed. He or she will then work with you and your selected agent to develop a marketing strategy and establish a list price that is both attractive and realistic in the local market.

You are required to list your home within 110% Appraised Value. You are required to list your home for a minimum of 90 days from the initial list date before you are eligible to accept the Appraised Value Offer.

**Listing Exclusion Clause**

When you speak with your dedicated Relocation Coach, he or she will discuss the necessity of including the following language in the listing agreement with your broker. The reason for this clause is to allow for cancellation of the listing agreement if necessary for GMS to close with the buyer. This clause is considered "standard operating procedure" among agents who work with corporate transferees. The following Exclusion Clause should be attached as an addendum to the Listing Agreement.

"In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between this Addendum and the Listing Agreement, the terms of this Addendum shall control.

It is understood and agreed that regardless of whether or not an offer is presented by a ready, willing and able buyer:

1. No commission or compensation shall be earned by, or be due and payable to, broker until the sale of the property has been consummated between seller and buyer, the deed delivered to the buyer and the purchase price delivered to the seller; and
2. The seller reserves the right to sell the property to GMS or to: \_\_\_\_\_ (individually and collectively a "Named Prospective Purchaser") at any time. Upon the execution by a Named Prospective Purchaser and me (us) of an Agreement of Sale with respect to the property, this listing agreement shall immediately terminate without obligation of my (our) part or on the part of any Named Prospective Purchaser to either pay a commission or to continue this listing."

_____	_____
Real Estate Agent	Date
_____	_____
Seller	Date
_____	_____
Seller	Date

### Monitoring the Marketing Process

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will work with you and your real estate agent throughout the marketing process to ensure maximum exposure for your home, provide feedback on the marketing process, and recommend strategy modifications, if needed.

### Negotiating a Sale



When you have an interested buyer and receive an offer, your dedicated Relocation Coach will be a valuable resource as you negotiate a price and an Offer Letter. You must submit ALL offers received to your dedicated Relocation Coach for review and consideration. DO NOT SIGN a contract (or any other document) with the buyers or take any money as a deposit from the real estate agent or prospective buyer.

### Finalizing a Sale

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will handle the details of the real estate transaction once the terms of the sales agreement have been finalized.

## **APPRAISED VALUE OFFER**

Your decision to relocate should not be hampered by concerns about selling your home. GMS will assist you by making an offer to purchase your home at a value established by independent fee appraisers. *The appraisal process will begin immediately after entering the relocation program.*

### *Appraiser Selection*

Once you have notified your dedicated Relocation Coach of your choice of appraisers, your dedicated Relocation Coach will notify the approved appraisers to contact you in order to schedule a convenient time to survey your home.

### *Relocation Appraisal*

A relocation appraisal is an estimate of the anticipated sales price of your home over a reasonable selling period. Relocation Appraisers estimate value primarily by comparing your home to the sales of similar properties making detailed adjustments for the differences between those properties and your home. The appraisers consider location, size, age, condition, and marketability.

When the appraisers arrive to inspect your home, you should be prepared to discuss any facts that may be important in determining the value of your home:

- any improvements you have made to the home that may or may not be visible to the appraisers; and
- any information on similar homes that have recently sold in your area.

Your home will be appraised in “as is” condition, so it is important your home shows favorably to maximize the appraised value and resale efforts. Your dedicated

Relocation Coach and your real estate agent will assist in suggesting specific fix-up items to help maximize your marketing efforts.

The appraisers may also ask for a copy of the land survey and a copy of the title policy that you received when you closed on your home. They will need these items to obtain the correct legal description.

### *Determining the Appraised Value Offer*

Your Appraised Value Offer will be equal to the average of two independent relocation appraisals. However, if the variance between the two appraisals is greater than 5% of the higher amount, a third relocation appraisal will be ordered. In this case, your offer will be determined by averaging the two closest appraisals. Normal and customary home inspections will be ordered at the time of the appraisals.

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will present you with your Appraised Value Offer once the inspection and appraisal reports have been received and reviewed. Your home will have to pass all inspections and/or you must satisfactorily remedy any deficiencies before your offer is finalized. The entire process should be completed within 30 days from the date of the last inspection.



You are required to list your home at no more than 110% of the Appraised Value Offer. This may require you to make an adjustment to your most current list price.

### *Title Search*

In addition to arranging for the appraisals and inspections, a title search will be initiated in order to prepare for closing. You may need to be involved in clearing any title issues should they appear on the title report. Please inform your real estate agent that GMS is bringing the title up-to-date. This can avoid a duplicate title search. Often an agent will arrange for a title search upon notification from a lender of a buyer's loan approval.

### *Offer Period*

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will call you with your Appraised Value Offer and outline the timing and process of the home sale program. The Appraised Value Offer has a 90-day acceptance period—90 days to continue marketing your home knowing you have a set "safety net". Your 90-day acceptance period begins the day your Offer Letter is postmarked. You may accept the appraised value offer at any time after marketing your home for 90 days.



You are required to market your home for 90 days from the list date before you are able to accept the Appraised Value Offer.

### *Accepting the Appraised Value Offer*

If you are unable to sell your home during the 90-day offer period and accept the Appraised Value Offer, you and your spouse should sign the GMS Offer Letter and return both copies to your dedicated Relocation Coach along with the other supporting documents. Your execution of the Offer Letter is a legal transaction. You will need to sign and notarize the Offer Letter and other related documents.

The signed GMS Offer Letter and related documents must be received by your dedicated Relocation Coach on or prior to the expiration date of your offer. The contract will be dated on the day all necessary documents are completed and signed by you and your dedicated Relocation Coach.

### *Vacating the Home*

You have 60 days from the date you sign the GMS Offer Letter in which to vacate the property provided a resale closing does not occur sooner. If you cannot move within 60 days, please let your dedicated Relocation Coach know and you may be granted additional time to vacate, if circumstances warrant.

After you and GMS have signed the Offer Letter, you will continue to be responsible for the costs of maintenance, repairs, utilities, insurance, etc., until you actually vacate. Prior to vacating, you will be expected to cooperate fully with all attempts by GMS to market the home by allowing prospective purchasers to view the premises by appointment during reasonable hours.

From the date you vacate, GMS will make all future mortgage, tax, and other carrying payments on your home. It will also assume payment of maintenance and utility costs. Your equity statement will reflect mortgage interest through your executed GMS contract or vacate date, whichever comes last.

## *Utilities*

Since sudden cold weather can cause damage due to freezing, do not turn off any utilities when you vacate the home. The utilities must be left in your name until you contract with GMS or vacate the home, whichever is later. At that time, you should request final readings from the utility companies serving your home. Your dedicated Relocation Coach will instruct your real estate agent to transfer the utilities into the real estate company's name until the home closes with new buyers. The day you vacate is customarily the date utilities are transferred to the real estate company. If you receive a utility bill covering a period of time when payment was not your responsibility, please submit the invoice to your dedicated Relocation Coach for payment.

## *Insurance*

You will need to cancel your homeowner's insurance policy effective when GMS signs the Offer Letter or you vacate, whichever is later. Any refund due to you from the insurance company will be paid directly to you. Make note to discuss this with your insurance agent and follow-up if necessary.



If you are vacating your home prior to contracting with GMS, contact your insurance agent to arrange coverage during any periods the home will be unoccupied. Most homeowner's insurance policies state coverage is void if the dwelling is unoccupied for a specific period of time.

## **AMENDED VALUE SALE**

Achieving an Amended Value Sale is of benefit to you and the Company. The Company avoids the significant expense of purchasing, maintaining, and reselling your home through GMS and you receive the highest possible price for your home.

If at any time during your marketing period, you receive an offer through the efforts of your real estate agent, you must submit the offer to your dedicated Relocation Coach. **DO NOT SIGN** a contract (or any other document) with the buyers or take any money as a deposit from the real estate agent or prospective buyer.

## *Advantages of an Amended Value Sale*

- You may receive a greater cash net return than the Appraised Value Offer.
- You will be relieved of the responsibilities of property ownership upon vacate or contract date with GMS, whichever is later.
- You will be relieved of the necessity of closing with the buyer.
- After contracting with GMS, you will be assured of receiving the net proceeds based upon the Amended Value Sale even if the original sale falls through and does not close.

### *Analyzing the Offer*

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will review the terms of the offer in an effort to determine whether the offer is bona fide (made in good faith), and to confirm that it is not subject to the sale of the buyer's property, does not contain any unusual or unreasonable terms, and is not subject to interim financing.

### *Amending the Offer Letter*

Once the final offer has been approved, your dedicated Relocation Coach will ask you to "amend" the amount in your GMS Offer Letter to reflect the buyer's offer and to sign and return the Offer Letter.

### *Buyer's Offer Less Than Appraised Value Offer*

At its discretion, the Company may also accept offers which are lower than your Appraised Value Offer. You will remain eligible to receive your equity calculation based on the Appraised Value Offer.

### *Closing an Amended Value Sale*

GMS will acquire your home, according to the terms of the amended GMS Offer Letter with you. GMS will also fully honor the terms of the Purchase Agreement with the buyers.

GMS will make every effort to close the transaction with the buyer. However, since GMS has already purchased your home, you will not be impacted if the sale to the buyer is not eventually consummated. Your equity payment will be based upon the Amended Value Sale Price.

Responsibility for your property remains with you until you contract with GMS or vacate, whichever is later. This includes maintenance of your home, payments for utilities, mortgage, taxes, and premiums for insurance.

### *Equity*

Your equity is calculated as of the GMS contract date or your scheduled vacate date, whichever is later, and is based upon the Amended Value sale price or guaranteed offer price, whichever is greater. You will need to coordinate the timing of your equity check with your dedicated Relocation Coach. You may be eligible to receive an equity advance once you have signed the GMS Offer Letter and when there is a specific need for funds to close on a new home in the destination area.



It is important to note that certain items are not covered under the policy and will be deducted from your final equity, if you have agreed to any of these additional seller's expenses:

- repairs and improvements requested by the buyer;
- buyer's closing costs;
- homeowner warranties;
- buyer's incentives;

- real estate commission above the standard rate for your area;
- closing dates beyond 60 days of vacating or contracting with GMS.

## INDEPENDENT SALE

If your home is considered ineligible for the Company's Home Sale Assistance Program (Buyer Value Option or Amended Value Offer) or you elect to sell your home independently prior to initiation into GMS' Home Sale Assistance Program, you may be eligible to receive direct reimbursement of normal and customary home sale closing costs and commission when you sell your home on your own. Contact your dedicated Relocation Coach to determine if your home qualifies for this home sale option.

If your home is *eligible* for GMS' home sale assistance (Buyer Value Option or Amended Value Offer) and you sell your home on your own, the Company will *not* provide tax assistance for your home sale commission and closing cost expenses.

### *Reimbursement of Expenses*

Normal and customary home sale closing costs and real estate commission at the prevailing rate in your current location (maximum of 6%) will be reimbursed if you sell your home independently within twelve (12) months of your effective date of transfer.

Discount points incurred through negotiation with FHA, VA and conventional financing are not reimbursable.

### Tax Assistance



You will receive tax assistance for normal and customary home sale closing costs and eligible commission expenses only if your home is ineligible for the Home Sale Assistance Program (Buyer Value Option or Amended Value Offer). If you choose to sell your home on your own, no tax assistance will be provided to you.

## RENTERS' ASSISTANCE

### *Lease Cancellation*

If you are presently renting your home or apartment at the origination location, you should immediately notify your landlord or lease holder of your move to avoid or minimize penalty charges. You should attempt to obtain a written waiver of any provisions of the lease requiring fees or penalties due to your transfer. The Company asks that you make every effort to minimize the penalties by making the best possible arrangements with your landlord.

Should you be required to pay a penalty, the Company reimburses up to a maximum of two (2) months' rent for any combination of lease termination penalty charges, forfeiture of lease deposit, and/or duplicate rent on your former home or apartment. If necessary, your dedicated Relocation Coach can assist you with lease cancellation arrangements.

## New Lease Agreement



Should you decided to rent a home or apartment in the destination location your new lease should be examined carefully before it is signed. You should negotiate a cancellation clause that would give you the right to cancel the lease without penalty after giving 30 days' notice, in the event of a company-initiated transfer.

### Sample Clause:

*If tenant's employer relocates tenant to a location more than fifty (50) miles from the premises that are the subject of this lease, this lease will be automatically terminated without further liability at any time. Tenant agrees to give landlord at least 30 days' notice of his/her intention to terminate this lease along with proof of such transfer of employment.*

### Tax Assistance

Gross-up will be provided for renters' assistance reimbursements.

## DESTINATION LOCATION

### *Planning Your House Hunting Trip*

Whether you are a homeowner or a renter, selecting a new community and home is one of the most important decisions you will make as a result of your job transfer. The Company's relocation program offers you professional home finding counseling through GMS. The Company encourages you to take advantage of this valuable service.

Your dedicated Relocation Coach will discuss your family's specific needs, preferences, and lifestyle. After review of your requirements, your dedicated Relocation Coach will select a local real estate professional who is experienced in the areas of interest to you.



Remember to contact your dedicated Relocation Coach prior to contacting any real estate agent in the new location.

Your dedicated Relocation Coach and real estate agent will work together to organize your house hunting trip so it is productive. By planning in advance, the agent will be prepared to take you on area tours and discuss items of interest to you and your family. Preparation gives you a better chance of quickly finding a residence to fit your needs at a price you can afford.

Once your real estate agent is contacted, he or she will provide the following information:

- schools, churches, etc.,
- commuting times,
- child and elder care services, and
- pre-selected homes for viewing





If you are a current homeowner, you should delay house hunting in the new location until you have an estimated value on your present home and you have been pre-qualified by a mortgage lender. Home purchase decisions made with unrealistic expectations of current equity may result in over-commitment at the new location.

### *Internet Home Search*

Although the Internet can be a useful tool to gain information on housing in the new area, keep in mind you need to use the approved real estate agent assigned to you to obtain information or to view any home you find on the Internet. This will avoid confusion as to which agent you are working with and any possible real estate commission disputes.

## **HOME PURCHASE CLOSING COST ASSISTANCE**

If you are purchasing a residence in the new location, you will be reimbursed for reasonable and actual home purchase closing costs provided you sign a contract to purchase a home in the new area and close within one year of your employment effective date or effective date of transfer.

One time closing costs for permanent financing will be reimbursed including:

- normal attorney's fees,
- appraisal fees,
- tax service fees,
- title insurance (lender's coverage, only),
- recording fees (including tax stamps),
- credit reports,
- survey fees,
- flood certification, and
- inspections required by the lender

The Company does not cover one-time closing adjustments such as property taxes, home hazard insurance, fuel adjustments, or private mortgage insurance (PMI). The Company does not cover the costs associated with establishing second mortgages, home equity lines of credit or construction loans.

### Tax Assistance

Gross-up will be provided for non-deductible home purchase closing costs.

### *National Mortgage Lender Program*

The Company has selected national mortgage lenders to provide you with a wide variety of mortgage services. Your dedicated Relocation Coach will provide you with information on participating mortgage companies.

Using the services of these preferred lenders offers many advantages:

- familiarity with the Company's program,
- mortgage loan pre-approval process,
- direct billing of closing costs to the Company, and

- consideration of current spousal income



### *New Construction*

If you elect to build a home in the new location, you may incur additional expenses as opposed to purchasing an existing home. Be aware in making your decision that policy benefits will not be extended if you decide to build.

## **MOVING TO THE NEW LOCATION**

To enable you and your family to make an effective transition to the new area, the Company's relocation program provides for a range of move-related assistance:

- pre-move survey of your household goods by the moving company;
- complete packing of all items;
- transportation of your household goods to your new residence;
- up to \$125,000 in full replacement valuation coverage for your household goods;
- unloading, unpacking, and placement of all furniture in your new residence; and
- storage of your household goods for up to 90 days, if required.

### *Shipment of Household Goods*

You, or a representative appointed by you, will need to plan to be present during all phases of your move—pack, load, delivery, and unpacking. Your own planning, preparation, and involvement during the process will contribute to a successful move.

### *Items Excluded From Shipment*



The items listed below are not ordinarily considered household goods and are your responsibility. The Company, GMS Relocation, and the moving company will not be able to take responsibility for these items.

The Miscellaneous Expense Allowance is intended to assist you with expenses unique to your personal move and for items not covered by this policy. Please note the Company will not pay for the shipping of the following items. If you have any questions, contact your dedicated Relocation Coach.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| → boats   | → airplanes   |
| → campers, trailers, motor homes                                | → plants, animals   |
| → farm machinery  | → large playground equipment  |
| → firewood, rocks, sand, soil, etc.                             | → tool or storage sheds, outdoor buildings  |
| → perishable food items, refrigerated or frozen                 | → valuables such as jewelry, money, coins, coin and stamp collections, irreplaceable photos, stocks, bonds, deeds, wills, and other legal documents |
| → aerosol cans, flammable liquids and other hazardous materials |   |
| → lumber, bricks, blocks, cement, tiles and building materials  |   |

### ***Playground and Similar Equipment***

Playground, gym equipment, swimming pools, and similar items must be disassembled prior to your move day. If the movers disassemble and reassemble these items, you will be responsible for payment of these costs at the time of service.

### ***Insurance***

Your household goods are protected with up to \$125,000 of full replacement valuation coverage.

### ***Items of Extraordinary Value (Including Antiques)***

It is recommended that items of extraordinary value such as antiques, fine art, furs, silver, china, crystal, photography equipment, oriental rugs, baseball cards, comics, other collectibles, etc. be professionally appraised prior to your move. If purchased within the last year, the value can be substantiated with a sales receipt. The Company will not pay for appraisals or any special handling and packaging of antiques or other high-value items.

### ***Packing and Loading***

Careful packing and proper loading are very important steps in assuring a successful move. It is important that the mover packs all your household goods. The driver will prepare a complete inventory list of your household goods describing the condition of each item (nicks, scratches, dents, etc.). Review the inventory carefully to make sure you agree with the driver's description before you sign the inventory. The inventory is an important document in the settlement of claims for loss and damage.

### ***Unloading***

Check with the van driver about delivery times at the new location. Be sure to give them all possible telephone numbers where you can be reached en route and in the new location.

As your goods are being unloaded, you must check off each item on your inventory sheets. Make notations on the sheets of missing or damaged items immediately and have the driver sign it. Assembly of furniture will be completed prior to the driver leaving your home. Unpacking of your goods consists of removing the items from the cartons in the room for which they are labeled. This does not include putting items away. Disposal of cartons is included in the move services.

### ***Billing***

The van line will send the invoice for your move directly to GMS. If you transport household goods not covered by the policy or incur unauthorized charges, you will be expected to pay for these items at the time of delivery.

### ***Tipping***

Tips to the movers are not covered under this policy. Your Miscellaneous Expense Allowance is designed to offset costs associated with tipping.

### *Shipment of Automobiles*

The Company will reimburse mileage at the current business rate for up to two (2) automobiles to be driven to the new location. In lieu of driving, the Company will pay to ship up to two automobiles if the distance to the new location exceeds 300 miles.

### *Storage in the New Location*

You should make every effort to move directly to your permanent residence. If necessary, you may store your household goods for up to 90 days.

### *Time Off for Moving*

Dollar General understands that moving can be a time-consuming and stressful project. Therefore, you may need to take some time off from work for this purpose. At your manager's approval, Dollar General will allow you up to one week of paid time off for relocation. During this time it is suggested that you take care of anything relating to your relocation so that you are able to become settled in your new residence and be fully focused on your job upon your return. Please discuss your plans to take time off for moving with your manager well in advance, so that he or she may plan for your absence.

### *Travel to the New Location*

You will be reimbursed for one-way transportation for you and your family to travel to the new location. If you drive, you will be expected to drive a minimum of 300 miles per day and via the most direct route as established by a standard Rand McNally table or equivalent.

You will be reimbursed for the following reasonable and actual en route expenses:

- lodging (one night in departure or destination location or en route night as needed),
- meals, reimbursed up to \$25.00/day for adults and \$15.00/day for children (original receipts must be submitted),
- mileage (current business mileage rate), parking, and tolls, and
- airfare, if necessary (14-day advance purchase required).

## **TAX ASSISTANCE**

Many reimbursements made to you are considered taxable income. The Company is required to report all relocation reimbursements as compensation with the exception of items identified below. For informational purposes, the Company will provide you with a tax assistance sheet that will be prepared and mailed to you in January following your move.

The following expenses are *excluded* from taxable income:

- reasonable and normal expenses for the movement of household goods;
- up to thirty days (30) of household goods storage while waiting to occupy your residence in the new location; and
- reasonable and normal expenses for transportation and lodging for you and your eligible family members from your present location to the new location.

The Company will assist in paying the additional tax resulting from taxable relocation reimbursements. Payments will be made directly to the federal, state, and FICA tax authorities. It is recommended you seek guidance from a tax professional for any year in which you receive relocation-related services or expense reimbursements. Accurate expense documentation is very important.

The tax assistance provided to you is based solely on your Company derived income, your filing status, and number of 1040 exemptions. Spouse income, investment income or any other outside income will not be included in the calculations. Individual variances from the program's calculations will not be reimbursed.

The additional taxes as calculated by the gross-up program and paid on your behalf will be included on your W-2 as income.

## TAX TREATMENT TABLE

Keep in mind some relocation items are not eligible for gross-up. The table below outlines which relocation payments will be tax assisted.

Relocation Provision	Taxable	Deductible/ Excludable	Grossed Up
Miscellaneous Expense Allowance	✓		No
House Hunting	✓		Yes
Temporary Living	✓		Yes
Home Sale Assistance	Billed directly to Company		
Independent Sale - <i>eligible home</i>	✓		No
Independent Sale - <i>ineligible home</i>	✓		Yes
Renters' Assistance	✓		Yes
Home Purchase Closing Cost	✓		Yes
Household Goods Move		✓	
Storage	✓	✓	Yes
	Days over 30		Days over 30
Travel to the New Location	Meals & Mileage greater than the current IRS mileage rate for moving	Transportation & Lodging	Meals & Mileage greater than the current IRS mileage rate for moving

**EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (“Agreement”), effective August 7, 2015 (“Effective Date”), is made and entered into by and between **DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION** (the “Company”), and James W. Thorpe (“Employee”).

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, Company desires to employ Employee upon the terms and subject to the conditions hereinafter set forth, and Employee desires to accept such employment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of the premises, the mutual promises, covenants and agreements contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

**1. Employment.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Company agrees to employ Employee as Executive Vice President, Chief Merchandising Officer of the Company.

**2. Term.** The term of this Agreement shall end March 31, 2018 (“Term”), unless otherwise terminated pursuant to Sections 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 hereof. The Term shall be automatically extended from month to month, for up to six (6) months, unless the Company gives written notice to Employee at least one month prior to the expiration of the original or any extended Term that no extension or further extension, as applicable, will occur or unless the Company replaces this Agreement with a new agreement or, in writing, extends or renews the Term of this Agreement for a period that is longer than six months from the expiration of the original Term. Unless otherwise noted, all references to the “Term” shall be deemed to refer to the original Term and any extension or renewal thereof.

**3. Position, Duties and Administrative Support.**

a. Position. Employee shall perform the duties of the position noted in Section 1 above and shall perform such other duties and responsibilities as Employee’s supervisor or the Company’s CEO may reasonably direct.

b. Full-Time Efforts. Employee shall perform and discharge faithfully and diligently such duties and responsibilities and shall devote Employee’s full-time efforts to the business and affairs of Company. Employee agrees to promote the best interests of the Company and to take no action that is likely to damage the public image or reputation of the Company, its subsidiaries or its affiliates.

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c. **Administrative Support.** Employee shall be provided with office space and administrative support.

d. **No Interference With Duties.** Employee shall not devote time to other activities which would inhibit or otherwise interfere with the proper performance of Employee's duties and shall not be directly or indirectly concerned or interested in any other business occupation, activity or interest other than by reason of holding a non-controlling interest as a shareholder, securities holder or debenture holder in a corporation quoted on a nationally recognized exchange (subject to any limitations in the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics). Employee may not serve as a member of a board of directors of a for-profit company, other than the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates, without the express approval of the CEO and, if required pursuant to Company policy, the Board (or an authorized Board committee). Under no circumstances may Employee serve on more than one other board of a for-profit company.

4. **Work Standard.** Employee agrees to comply with all terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, as well as all applicable Company work policies, procedures and rules. Employee also agrees to comply with all federal, state and local statutes, regulations and public ordinances governing Employee's performance hereunder.

5. **Compensation.**

a. **Base Salary.** Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, the Company shall pay Employee, and Employee shall accept, an annual base salary ("Base Salary") of no less than Six Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$635,000.00). The Base Salary shall be paid in accordance with Company's normal payroll practices (but no less frequently than monthly) and may be increased from time to time at the sole discretion of the Company.

b. **Incentive Bonus.** Employee's incentive compensation for the Term of this Agreement shall be determined under the Company's annual bonus program for officers at Employee's grade level, as it may be amended from time to time. The actual bonus paid pursuant to this Section 5(b), if any, shall be based on criteria established by the Board, its Compensation Committee and/or the CEO, as applicable, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the annual bonus program for officers. Any bonus payments due hereunder shall be payable to the Employee no later than 2 1/2 months after the end of the Company's taxable year or the calendar year, whichever is later, in which Employee is first vested in



such bonus payments for purposes of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code").

c. **Vacation.** Employee shall be entitled to four weeks paid vacation time within the first year of employment. After five years of employment, Employee shall be entitled to five weeks paid vacation. Vacation time is granted on the anniversary of Employee's hire date each year. Any available but unused vacation as of the annual anniversary of employment date or at Employee's termination date shall be forfeited.

d. **Business Expenses.** Employee shall be reimbursed for all reasonable business expenses incurred in carrying out the work hereunder. Employee shall adhere to the Company's expense reimbursement policies and procedures. In no event will any such reimbursement be made later than the last day of Employee's taxable year following Employee's taxable year in which Employee incurs the reimbursable expense.

e. **Perquisites.** Employee shall be entitled to receive such other executive perquisites, fringe and other benefits as are provided to officers at the same grade level under any of the Company's plans and/or programs in effect from time to time.

6. **Cooperation.** Employee agrees to cooperate with the Company in the investigation review, audit, or assessment, whether internal or external, of any matters involving Dollar General as well as the defense or prosecution of any claims or other causes of action made against or on behalf of the Company, including any claims or actions against its affiliates, officers, directors and employees. Employee's cooperation in connection with such matters includes, without limitation, being available (upon reasonable notice and without unreasonably interfering with his/her other professional obligations) to meet with the Company and its legal or other designated advisors regarding any matters in which Employee has been involved; to prepare for any proceeding (including, without limitation, depositions, consultation, discovery or trial); to provide truthful affidavits; to assist with any audit, inspection, proceeding or other inquiry; and to act as a witness to provide truthful testimony in connection with any legal proceeding affecting the Company. Employee further agrees that if Employee is contacted by any person or entity regarding matters Employee knows or reasonably should know to be adverse to the Company, Employee shall promptly (within 48 hours) notify the Company in writing by sending such notification to the General Counsel, Dollar General Corporation, 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072; facsimile (615) 855-5517. The Company agrees to reimburse Employee for any reasonable documented expenses incurred in providing such cooperation.

7. **Benefits.** During the Term, Employee (and, where applicable, Employee's eligible dependents) shall be eligible to participate in those various Company welfare benefit plans, practices and policies in place during the Term (including, without limitation, medical, pharmacy, dental, vision, disability, employee life, accidental death and travel accident insurance plans and other programs, if any) to the extent allowed under and in accordance with the terms of those plans. In addition, Employee shall be eligible to participate, pursuant to their terms, in any other benefit plans offered by the Company to similarly-situated officers or other employees from time to time during the Term (excluding plans applicable solely to certain officers of the Company in accordance with the express terms of such plans). Collectively the plans and arrangements described in this Section 7, as they may be amended or modified in accordance with their terms, are hereinafter referred to as the "Benefits Plans." Notwithstanding the above, Employee understands and acknowledges that Employee is not eligible for benefits under any other severance plan, program, or policy maintained by the Company, if any exists, and that the only severance benefits Employee is entitled to are set forth in this Agreement.

8. **Termination for Cause.** This Agreement is not intended to change the at-will nature of Employee's employment with Company, and it may be terminated at any time by either party, with or without cause. If this Agreement and Employee's employment are terminated by Company for "Cause" (Termination for Cause) as that term is defined below, it will be without any liability owing to Employee or Employee's dependents and beneficiaries under this Agreement (recognizing, however, that benefits covered by or owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement). Any one of the following conditions or Employee conduct shall constitute "Cause":

- a. Any act involving fraud or dishonesty, or any material act of misconduct relating to Employee's performance of his or her duties;
- b. Any material breach of any SEC or other law or regulation or any Company policy governing trading or dealing with stocks, securities, public debt instruments, bonds, or investments and the like or with inappropriate disclosure or "tipping" relating to any stock, security, public debt instrument, bond or investment;
- c. Any material violation of the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (or the equivalent code in place at the time);

d. Other than as required by law, the carrying out of any activity or the making of any public statement which prejudices or reduces the good name and standing of Company or any of its affiliates or would bring any one of these into public contempt or ridicule;

e. Attendance at work in a state of intoxication or being found with any drug or substance possession of which would amount to a criminal offense;

f. Assault or other act of violence;

g. Conviction of or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any felony whatsoever or any misdemeanor that would preclude employment under the Company's hiring policy; or

h. Willful or repeated refusal or failure substantially to perform Employee's material obligations and duties hereunder or those reasonably directed by Employee's supervisor, the CEO and/or the Board (except in connection with a Disability).

A termination for Cause shall be effective when the Company has given Employee written notice of its intention to terminate for Cause, describing those acts or omissions that are believed to constitute Cause, and has given Employee ten days to respond.

**9. Termination upon Death.** Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, this Agreement shall terminate immediately upon Employee's death, and the Company shall have no further liability to Employee or Employee's dependents and beneficiaries under this Agreement, except for those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement.

**10. Disability.** If a Disability (as defined below) of Employee occurs during the Term, unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Company may notify Employee of the Company's intention to terminate Employee's employment. In that event, employment shall terminate effective on the termination date provided in such notice of termination (the "Disability Effective Date"), and this Agreement shall terminate without further liability to Employee, Employee's dependents and beneficiaries, except for those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. In this Agreement, "Disability" means:

a. A long-term disability, as defined in the Company's applicable long-term disability plan as then in effect, if any; or

b. Employee's inability to perform the duties under this Agreement in accordance with the Company's expectations because of a medically determinable physical

or mental impairment that (i) can reasonably be expected to result in death or (ii) has lasted or can reasonably be expected to last longer than ninety (90) consecutive days. Under this Section 10(b), unless otherwise required by law, the existence of a Disability shall be determined by the Company, only upon receipt of a written medical opinion from a qualified physician selected by or acceptable to the Company. In this circumstance, to the extent permitted by law, Employee shall, if reasonably requested by the Company, submit to a physical examination by that qualified physician. Nothing in this Section 10(b) is intended to nor shall it be deemed to broaden or modify the definition of "disability" in the Company's long-term disability plan.

**11. Employee's Termination of Employment.**

a. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, Employee may terminate employment and this Agreement at any time, for no reason, with thirty (30) days written notice to Company (and in the event that Employee is providing notice of termination for Good Reason, Employee must provide such notice within 30 days after the event purported to give rise to Employee's claim for Good Reason first occurs). In such event, Employee shall not be entitled to those payments and benefits listed in Section 12 below unless Employee terminates employment for Good Reason, as defined below, or unless Section 12(a)(iii) applies.

b. Upon any termination of employment, Employee shall be entitled to any earned but unpaid Base Salary through the date of termination and such other vested benefits under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, such unpaid Base Salary shall be paid to Employee as soon as practicable after the effective date of termination in accordance with the Company's usual payroll practices (not less frequently than monthly); provided, however, that if payment at such time would result in a prohibited acceleration under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code, then such amount shall be paid at the time the amount would otherwise have been paid absent such prohibited acceleration.

c. Good Reason shall mean any of the following actions taken by the Company:

- (i) A reduction by the Company in Employee's Base Salary or target bonus level;

(ii) The Company shall fail to continue in effect any significant Company-sponsored compensation plan or benefit (without replacing it with a similar plan or with a compensation equivalent), unless such action is in connection with across-the-board plan changes or terminations similarly affecting at least 95 percent of all officers of the Company or 100 percent of officers at the same grade level;

(iii) The Company's principal executive offices shall be moved to a location outside the middle-Tennessee area, or Employee is required (absent mutual agreement) to be based anywhere other than the Company's principal executive offices;

(iv) Without Employee's written consent, the assignment to Employee by the Company of duties inconsistent with, or the significant reduction of the title, powers and functions associated with, Employee's position, title or office as described in Section 3 above, unless such action is the result of a restructuring or realignment of duties and responsibilities by the Company, for business reasons, that leaves Employee at the same rate of Base Salary, annual target bonus opportunity, and officer level (i.e., Executive Vice President, etc.) and with a similar level of responsibility, or unless such action is the result of Employee's failure to meet pre-established and objective performance criteria;

(v) Any material breach by the Company of this Agreement; or

(vi) The failure of any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, assignment, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company to assume expressly and agree to perform this Agreement in the same manner and to the same extent that the Company would be required to perform it if no such succession had taken place.

Good Reason shall not include Employee's death, Disability or Termination for Cause or Employee's termination for *any* reason other than Good Reason as defined above.

d. Prior to Employee being entitled to the payments or benefits described in Section 12 below, the Company shall have the opportunity to cure any claimed event of Good Reason within thirty (30) days after receiving written notice from Employee specifying the same.

**12. Termination without Cause or by Employee for Good Reason.**

a. The continuation of Base Salary and other payments and benefits described in Section 12(b) shall be triggered *only* upon one or more of the following circumstances:

(i) The Company terminates Employee (as it may do at any time) without Cause; it being understood that termination by death or Disability does not constitute termination without Cause;

(ii) Employee terminates for Good Reason;

(iii) The Company fails to offer to renew, extend or replace this Agreement before, at, or within six (6) months after, the end of its original three-year Term (or any term provided for in a written renewal or extension of the original Term), and Employee resigns from employment with the Company within sixty (60) days after such failure, unless such failure is accompanied by a mutually agreeable severance arrangement between the Company and Employee or is the result of Employee's retirement or other termination from the Company other than for Good Reason notwithstanding the Company's offer to renew, extend or replace this Agreement.

b. In the event of one of the triggers referenced in Sections 12(a)(i) through (iii) above, then, on the sixtieth (60th) day after Employee's termination of employment, but contingent upon the execution and effectiveness of the Release attached hereto and made a part hereof, and subject to Section 23(o) below, Employee shall be entitled to the following:

(i) Continuation of Employee's Base Salary as of the date immediately preceding the termination (or, if the termination of employment is for Good Reason due to the reduction of Employee's Base Salary, then such rate of Base Salary as in effect immediately prior to such reduction) for 24 months, payable in accordance with the Company's normal payroll cycle and procedures (but not less frequently than monthly) with a lump sum payment on the sixtieth (60th) day after Employee's termination of employment of the amounts Employee would otherwise have received during the sixty (60) days after Employee's termination had the payments begun immediately after Employee's termination of employment. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the amount of any payment or entitlement to payment of the aforesaid Base Salary continuation shall be forfeited or, if paid, subject to recovery by the Company in the event and to the extent of any base salary earned by the Employee as a result of subsequent employment during the 24 months

after Employee's termination of employment. In no event shall Employee be obligated to seek other employment or take any other action by way of mitigation of such amounts payable to Employee and, except as provided in the preceding sentence, such amounts shall not be reduced whether or not the Employee obtains other employment.

(ii) A lump sum payment of two times the amount of the average percentage of target bonus paid or to be paid to employees at the same job grade level of Employee (if any) under the annual bonus programs for officers in respect of the Company's two fiscal years immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the termination date occurs.

(iii) A lump sum payment in an amount equal to two times the annual contribution that would have been made by the Company in respect of the plan year in which such termination of employment occurs for Employee's participation in the Company's medical, pharmacy, dental and vision benefits programs.

(iv) Reasonable outplacement services, as determined and provided by the Company, for one year or until other employment is secured, whichever comes first.

All payments and benefits otherwise provided to Employee pursuant to this Section 12 shall be forfeited if a copy of the Release attached hereto executed by Employee is not provided to the Company within twenty-one (21) days after Employee's termination date (unless otherwise required by law) or if the Release is revoked; and no payment or benefit hereunder shall be provided to Employee prior to the Company's receipt of the Release and the expiration of the period of revocation provided in the Release.

c. In the event that there is a material breach by Employee of any continuing obligations under this Agreement or the Release after termination of employment, any unpaid amounts under this Section 12 shall be forfeited and Company shall retain any other rights available to it under law or equity. Any payments or reimbursements under this Section 12 shall not be deemed the continuation of Employee's employment for any purpose. Except as specifically enumerated in the Release, the Company's payment obligations under this Section 12 will not negate or reduce (i) any amounts otherwise due but not yet paid to Employee by the Company, or (ii) any other amounts payable to Employee outside this Agreement, or (iii) those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. The Company

may, at any time and in its sole discretion, make a lump-sum payment of any or all amounts, or any or all remaining amounts, due to Employee under this Section 12 if, or to the extent, the payment is not subject to Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code.

**13. Effect of 280G.** Any payments and benefits due under Section 12 that constitute “parachute payments” within the meaning of Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code (“Code Section 280G”), plus all other “parachute payments” as defined under Code Section 280G that might otherwise be due to the Employee (collectively, with payments and benefits due under Section 12, “Total Payments”), shall be limited to the Capped Amount. The “Capped Amount” shall be the amount otherwise payable, reduced in such amount and to such extent so that no amount of the Total Payments, would constitute an “excess parachute payment” under Code Section 280G. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence but contingent upon Employee’s timely execution and the effectiveness of the Release attached hereto and made a part hereof as provided in Section 12 hereof, the Employee’s Total Payments shall not be limited to the Capped Amount if it is determined that Employee would receive at least \$50,000 in greater after-tax proceeds if no such reduction is made. The calculation of the Capped Amount and all other determinations relating to the applicability of Code Section 280G (and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder) to the payments contemplated by this Agreement shall be made by the tax department of an independent public accounting firm, or, at Company’s discretion, by a compensation consulting firm, and such determinations shall be binding upon Employee and the Company. Unless Employee and the Company shall otherwise agree (provided such agreement does not cause any payment or benefit hereunder which is deferred compensation covered by Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code to be in non-compliance with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code), in the event the Payments are to be reduced, the Company shall reduce or eliminate the payments or benefits to Employee by first reducing or eliminating those payments or benefits which are not payable in cash and then by reducing or eliminating cash payments, in each case in reverse order beginning with payments or benefits which are to be paid the farthest in time from the date of the “change in ownership or control” (within the meaning of Code Section 280G). Any reduction pursuant to the preceding sentence shall take precedence over the provisions of any other plan, arrangement or agreement governing Employee’s rights and entitlements to any benefits or compensation.

**14. Publicity; No Disparaging Statement.** Except as otherwise provided in Section 15 hereof, Employee and the Company covenant and agree that they shall not engage in any communications to persons outside the Company which shall disparage one another or interfere with their existing or prospective business relationships.



15. **Confidentiality and Legal Process.** Employee agrees to keep the proprietary terms of this Agreement confidential and to refrain from disclosing any information concerning this Agreement to anyone other than Employee's immediate family and personal agents or advisors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Agreement is intended to prohibit Employee or the Company from performing any duty or obligation that shall arise as a matter of law. Specifically, Employee and the Company shall continue to be under a duty to truthfully respond to any legal and valid subpoena or other legal process. This Agreement is not intended in any way to proscribe Employee's or the Company's right and ability to provide information to any federal, state or local agency in response or adherence to the lawful exercise of such agency's authority.

16. **Business Protection Provision Definitions.**

a. **Preamble.** As a material inducement to the Company to enter into this Agreement, and in recognition of the valuable experience, knowledge and proprietary information Employee has gained or will gain while employed, Employee agrees to abide by and adhere to the business protection provisions in Sections 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 herein.

b. **Definitions.** For purposes of Sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 herein:

(i) "Competitive Position" shall mean any employment, consulting, advisory, directorship, agency, promotional or independent contractor arrangement between Employee and (x) any person or Entity engaged wholly or in material part in the business in which the Company is engaged (i.e., the discount consumable basics or general merchandise retail business), including but not limited to such other similar businesses as Albertsons/Safeway, ALDI, Big Lots, BJ's Wholesale Club, Casey's General Stores, Circle K, Costco, CVS, Dollar Tree Stores, Family Dollar Stores, Fred's, Kmart, Kroger, 99 Cents Only Stores, The Pantry, Pilot Flying J, Rite-Aid, Sam's Club, 7-Eleven, Target, Walgreen's and Wal-Mart, or (y) any person or Entity then attempting or planning to enter the discount consumable basics retail business, whereby Employee is required to perform services on behalf of or for the benefit of such person or Entity which are substantially similar to the services Employee provided or directed at any time while employed by the Company or any of its affiliates.

(ii) "Confidential Information" shall mean the proprietary or confidential data, information, documents or materials (whether oral, written, electronic or otherwise) belonging to or pertaining to the Company, other than "Trade Secrets" (as

defined below), which is of tangible or intangible value to the Company and the details of which are not generally known to the competitors of the Company. Confidential Information shall also include any items marked "CONFIDENTIAL" or some similar designation or which are otherwise identified as being confidential.

(iii) "Entity" or "Entities" shall mean any business, individual, partnership, joint venture, agency, governmental agency, body or subdivision, association, firm, corporation, limited liability company or other entity of any kind.

(iv) "Restricted Period" shall mean two (2) years following Employee's termination date.

(v) "Territory" shall include individually and as a total area those states in the United States in which the Company maintains stores at Employee's termination date or those states in which the Company has specific and demonstrable plans to open stores within six months of Employee's termination date.

(vi) "Trade Secrets" shall mean information or data of or about the Company, including, but not limited to, technical or non-technical data, formulas, patterns, compilations, programs, devices, methods, techniques, drawings, processes, financial data, financial plans, product plans or lists of actual or potential customers or suppliers that: (A) derives economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; (B) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy; and (C) any other information which is defined as a "trade secret" under applicable law.

(vii) "Work Product" shall mean all tangible work product, property, data, documentation, "know-how," concepts or plans, inventions, improvements, techniques and processes relating to the Company that were conceived, discovered, created, written, revised or developed by Employee while employed by the Company.

**17. Nondisclosure: Ownership of Proprietary Property.**

a. In recognition of the Company's need to protect its legitimate business interests, Employee hereby covenants and agrees that, for the Term and thereafter (as described below), Employee shall regard and treat Trade Secrets and Confidential Information as strictly confidential and wholly-owned by the Company and shall not, for any

reason, in any fashion, either directly or indirectly, use, sell, lend, lease, distribute, license, give, transfer, assign, show, disclose, disseminate, reproduce, copy, misappropriate or otherwise communicate any Trade Secrets or Confidential Information to any person or Entity for any purpose other than in accordance with Employee's duties under this Agreement or as required by applicable law. This provision shall apply to each item constituting a Trade Secret at all times it remains a "trade secret" under applicable law and shall apply to any Confidential Information, during employment and for the Restricted Period thereafter.

b. Employee shall exercise best efforts to ensure the continued confidentiality of all Trade Secrets and Confidential Information and shall immediately notify the Company of any unauthorized disclosure or use of any Trade Secrets or Confidential Information of which Employee becomes aware. Employee shall assist the Company, to the extent reasonably requested, in the protection or procurement of any intellectual property protection or other rights in any of the Trade Secrets or Confidential Information.

c. All Work Product shall be owned exclusively by the Company. To the greatest extent possible, any Work Product shall be deemed to be "work made for hire" (as defined in the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C.A. § 101 et seq., as amended), and Employee hereby unconditionally and irrevocably transfers and assigns to the Company all right, title and interest Employee currently has or may have by operation of law or otherwise in or to any Work Product, including, without limitation, all patents, copyrights, trademarks (and the goodwill associated therewith), trade secrets, service marks (and the goodwill associated therewith) and other intellectual property rights. Employee agrees to execute and deliver to the Company any transfers, assignments, documents or other instruments which the Company may deem necessary or appropriate, from time to time, to protect the rights granted herein or to vest complete title and ownership of any and all Work Product, and all associated intellectual property and other rights therein, exclusively in the Company.

**18. Non-Interference with Employees.** Through employment and thereafter through the Restricted Period, Employee will not, either directly or indirectly, alone or in conjunction with any other person or Entity: actively recruit, solicit, attempt to solicit, induce or attempt to induce any person who is an exempt employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates (or has been within the last 6 months) to leave or cease such employment for any reason whatsoever;

**19. Non-Interference with Business Relationships.**

a. Employee acknowledges that, in the course of employment, Employee will learn about Company's business, services, materials, programs and products and the manner in which they are developed, marketed, serviced and provided. Employee knows and acknowledges that the Company has invested considerable time and money in developing its product sales and real estate development programs and relationships, vendor and other service provider relationships and agreements, store layouts and fixtures, and marketing techniques and that those things are unique and original. Employee further acknowledges that the Company has a strong business reason to keep secret information relating to Company's business concepts, ideas, programs, plans and processes, so as not to aid Company's competitors. Accordingly, Employee acknowledges and agrees that the protection outlined in (b) below is necessary and reasonable.

b. During the Restricted Period, Employee will not, on Employee's own behalf or on behalf of any other person or Entity, solicit, contact, call upon, or communicate with any person or entity or any representative of any person or entity who has a business relationship with Company and with whom Employee had contact while employed, if such contact or communication would likely interfere with Company's business relationships or result in an unfair competitive advantage over Company.

**20. Agreement Not to Work in Competitive Position.** Employee covenants and agrees not to accept, obtain or work in a Competitive Position for a company or entity that operates anywhere within the Territory for the Restricted Period.

**21. Acknowledgements Regarding Sections 16 — 20.**

a. Employee and Company expressly covenant and agree that the scope, territorial, time and other restrictions contained in Sections 16 through 20 of this Agreement constitute the most reasonable and equitable restrictions possible to protect the business interests of the Company given: (i) the business of the Company; (ii) the competitive nature of the Company's industry; and (iii) that Employee's skills are such that Employee could easily find alternative, commensurate employment or consulting work in Employee's field which would not violate any of the provisions of this Agreement.

b. Employee acknowledges that the compensation and benefits described in Sections 5 and 12 are also in consideration of his/her covenants and agreements contained in Sections 16 through 20 hereof and that a breach by Employee of the obligations contained in

Sections 16 through 20 hereof shall forfeit Employee's right to such compensation and benefits.

c. Employee acknowledges and agrees that a breach by Employee of the obligations set forth in Sections 16 through 20 will likely cause Company irreparable injury and that, in such event, the Company shall be entitled to injunctive relief in addition to such other and further relief as may be proper.

d. The parties agree that if, at any time, a court of competent jurisdiction determines that any of the provisions of Section 16 through 20 are unreasonable under Tennessee law as to time or area or both, the Company shall be entitled to enforce this Agreement for such period of time or within such area as may be determined reasonable by such court.

**22. Return of Materials.** Upon Employee's termination, Employee shall return to the Company all written, electronic, recorded or graphic materials of any kind belonging or relating to the Company or its affiliates, including any originals, copies and abstracts in Employee's possession or control.

**23. General Provisions.**

a. Amendment. This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a writing signed by both of the parties hereto.

b. Binding Agreement. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon Employee, his/her heirs and personal representatives, and the Company and its successors and assigns.

c. Waiver Of Breach: Specific Performance. The waiver of a breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not operate or be construed as a waiver of any other breach. Each of the parties to this Agreement will be entitled to enforce this Agreement, specifically, to recover damages by reason of any breach of this Agreement, and to exercise all other rights existing in that party's favor. The parties hereto agree and acknowledge that money damages may not be an adequate remedy for any breach of the provisions of this Agreement and that any party may apply to any court of law or equity of competent jurisdiction for specific performance or injunctive relief to enforce or prevent any violations of the provisions of this Agreement.

d. Unsecured General Creditor. The Company shall neither reserve nor specifically set aside funds for the payment of its obligations under this Agreement, and such obligations shall be paid solely from the general assets of the Company.

e. No Effect On Other Arrangements. It is expressly understood and agreed that the payments made in accordance with this Agreement are in addition to any other benefits or compensation to which Employee may be entitled or for which Employee may be eligible.

f. Tax Withholding. There shall be deducted from each payment under this Agreement the amount of any tax required by any governmental authority to be withheld and paid over by the Company to such governmental authority for the account of Employee.

g. Notices.

(i) All notices and all other communications provided for herein shall be in writing and delivered personally to the other designated party, or mailed by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, or delivered by a recognized national overnight courier service, or sent by facsimile, as follows:

If to Company to: Dollar General Corporation  
Attn: General Counsel  
100 Mission Ridge  
Goodlettsville, TN 37072-2171  
Facsimile: (615) 855-5517

If to Employee to: (Last address of Employee known to Company unless otherwise directed in writing by Employee)

(ii) All notices sent under this Agreement shall be deemed given twenty-four (24) hours after sent by facsimile or courier, seventy-two (72) hours after sent by certified or registered mail and when delivered if by personal delivery.

(iii) Either party hereto may change the address to which notice is to be sent hereunder by written notice to the other party in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

h. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee (without giving effect to conflict of laws).

i. Arbitration. If any contest or dispute arises between the parties with respect to this Agreement, such contest or dispute shall be submitted to binding arbitration for resolution in Nashville, Tennessee in accordance with the rules and procedures of the

Employment Dispute Resolution Rules of the American Arbitration Association then in effect. The Company and Employee shall each bear 50 percent of the costs related to such arbitration. If the arbitrator determines that Employee is the prevailing party in the dispute, then the Company shall reimburse Employee for his/her reasonable legal or other fees and expenses incurred in such arbitration subject to and within ten (10) days after his/her request for reimbursement accompanied by evidence that the fees and expenses were incurred. Any reimbursement hereunder shall be paid to Employee promptly and in no event later than the end of the year next following the date the expense was incurred. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon all parties hereto and shall be rendered pursuant to a written decision, which contains a detailed recital of the arbitrator's reasoning. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Employee acknowledges and agrees that the Company, its subsidiaries and any of their respective affiliates shall be entitled to injunctive or other relief in order to enforce the covenant not to compete, covenant not to solicit and/or confidentiality covenants as set forth in Sections 14, 16 through 20 and 22 of this Agreement.

j. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the full and complete understanding of the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter contained herein and, unless specifically provided herein, this Agreement supersedes and replaces any prior agreement, either oral or written, which Employee may have with Company that relates generally to the same subject matter.

k. Assignment. This Agreement may not be assigned by Employee, and any attempted assignment shall be null and void and of no force or effect.

l. Severability. If any one or more of the terms, provisions, covenants or restrictions of this Agreement shall be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, then the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect, and to that end the provisions hereof shall be deemed severable.

m. Section Headings. The Section headings set forth herein are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement whatsoever.

n. Voluntary Agreement. Employee and Company represent and agree that each has reviewed all aspects of this Agreement, has carefully read and fully understands all provisions of this Agreement, and is voluntarily entering into this Agreement. Each party

represents and agrees that such party has had the opportunity to review any and all aspects of this Agreement with legal, tax or other adviser(s) of such party's choice before executing this Agreement.

o. Deferred Compensation Omnibus Provision. It is intended that any payment or benefit which is provided pursuant to or in connection with this Agreement which is considered to be deferred compensation subject to Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code ("Code Section 409A") shall be paid and provided in a manner, and at such time, including without limitation payment and provision of benefits only in connection with the occurrence of a permissible payment event contained in Code Section 409A (e.g. death, disability, separation from service from the Company and its affiliates as defined for purposes of Code Section 409A), and in such form, as complies with the applicable requirements of Code Section 409A to avoid the unfavorable tax consequences provided therein for non-compliance. In connection with effecting such compliance with Code Section 409A, the following shall apply:

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Company is authorized to amend this Agreement, to void or amend any election made by Employee under this Agreement and/or to delay the payment of any monies and/or provision of any benefits in such manner as may be determined by it to be necessary or appropriate to comply, or to evidence or further evidence required compliance, with Code Section 409A (including any transition or grandfather rules thereunder).

(ii) Neither Employee nor the Company shall take any action to accelerate or delay the payment of any monies and/or provision of any benefits in any manner which would not be in compliance with Code Section 409A (including any transition or grandfather rules thereunder).

(iii) If Employee is a specified employee for purposes of Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i), any payment or provision of benefits in connection with a separation from service payment event (as determined for purposes of Code Section 409A) shall not be made until six months after Employee's separation from service (the "409A Deferral Period"). In the event such payments are otherwise due to be made in installments or periodically during the 409A Deferral Period, the payments which would otherwise have been made in the 409A Deferral Period shall be accumulated and paid in a lump sum as soon as the 409A Deferral Period ends, and



the balance of the payments shall be made as otherwise scheduled. In the event benefits are required to be deferred, any such benefit may be provided during the 409A Deferral Period at Employee's expense, with Employee having a right to reimbursement from the Company once the 409A Deferral Period ends, and the balance of the benefits shall be provided as otherwise scheduled.

(iv) If a Change in Control occurs but the Change in Control does not constitute a change in control event within the meaning of Code Section 409A (a "409A Change in Control"), then payment of any amount or provision of any benefit under this Agreement which is considered to be deferred compensation subject to Code Section 409A shall be deferred until another permissible payment event contained in Code Section 409A occurs (e.g., death, disability, separation from service from the Company and its affiliated companies as defined for purposes of Code Section 409A), including any deferral of payment or provision of benefits for the 409A Deferral Period as provided above.

(v) For purposes of this Agreement, all rights to payments and benefits hereunder shall be treated as rights to receive a series of separate payments and benefits to the fullest extent allowed by Code Section 409A. If under this Agreement, an amount is to be paid in two or more installments, for purposes of Code Section 409A, each installment shall be treated as a separate payment. In the event any payment payable upon termination of employment would be exempt from Code Section 409A under Treas. Reg. § 1.409A-1(b)(9)(iii) but for the amount of such payment, the determination of the payments to Employee that are exempt under such provision shall be made by applying the exemption to payments based on chronological order beginning with the payments paid closest in time on or after such termination of employment.

(vi) For purposes of determining time of (but not entitlement to) payment or provision of deferred compensation under this Agreement under Code Section 409A in connection with a termination of employment, termination of employment will be read to mean a "separation from service" within the meaning of Code Section 409A where it is reasonably anticipated that no further services would be performed after that date or that the level of bona fide services Employee would perform after that date (whether as an employee or independent contractor) would permanently decrease

to less than 50% of the average level of bona fide services performed over the immediately preceding thirty-six (36) month period.

(vii) For purposes of this Agreement, a key employee for purposes of Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) shall be determined on the basis of the applicable 12-month period ending on the specified employee identification date designated by the Company consistently for purposes of this Agreement and similar agreements or, if no such designation is made, based on the default rules and regulations under Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i).

(viii) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Company shall not be liable to Employee if any payment or benefit which is to be provided pursuant to this Agreement and which is considered deferred compensation subject to Code Section 409A otherwise fails to comply with, or be exempt from, the requirements of Code Section 409A.

(ix) With regard to any provision herein that provides for reimbursement of expenses or in-kind benefits that are subject to Code Section 409A, except as permitted by Code Section 409A, (x) the right to reimbursement or in-kind benefits is not subject to liquidation or exchange for another benefit, and (y) the amount of expenses eligible for reimbursement, or in-kind benefits, provided during any taxable year of Employee shall not affect the expenses eligible for reimbursement, or in-kind benefits to be provided, in any other taxable year of Employee, provided that the foregoing clause (y) shall not be violated with regard to expenses reimbursed under any arrangement covered by Code Section 105(b) solely because such expenses are subject to a limit related to the period the arrangement is in effect. All reimbursements shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Company's reimbursement policies but in no event later than Employee's taxable year following Employee's taxable year in which the related expense is incurred.

(x) When, if ever, a payment under this Agreement specifies a payment period with reference to a number of days (e.g., "payment shall be made within ten (10) days following the date of termination"), the actual date of payment within the specified period shall be within the sole discretion of the Company.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed, or caused their duly authorized representative to execute this Agreement to be effective as of the Effective Date.

Date: 9/2/2015

DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION

By: /s/ Bob Ravener

Name: Bob Ravener

Title: EVP, Chief People Officer

“EMPLOYEE”

/s/ James W. Thorpe

**James W. Thorpe**

Date: 9/2/2015

Witnessed By:

/s/ Troy Simpson

**Name of Witness**

**Addendum to Employment Agreement with James W. Thorpe**

**RELEASE AGREEMENT**

THIS RELEASE ("Release") is made and entered into by and between \_\_\_\_\_ ("Employee") and **DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION**, and its successor or assigns ("Company").

WHEREAS, Employee and Company have agreed that Employee's employment with Dollar General Corporation shall terminate on \_\_\_\_\_;

WHEREAS, Employee and the Company have previously entered into that certain Employment Agreement, effective \_\_\_\_\_ ("Agreement"), in which the form of this Release is incorporated by reference;

WHEREAS, Employee and Company desire to delineate their respective rights, duties and obligations attendant to such termination and desire to reach an accord and satisfaction of all claims arising from Employee's employment, and termination of employment, with appropriate releases, in accordance with the Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Company desires to compensate Employee in accordance with the Agreement for service Employee has provided and/or will provide for the Company;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the agreements of the parties set forth in this Release, and other good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, hereby covenant and agree as follows:

**1. Claims Released Under This Agreement.**

In exchange for receiving the payments and benefits described in Section 12 of the Agreement, Employee hereby voluntarily and irrevocably waives, releases, dismisses with prejudice, and withdraws all claims, complaints, suits or demands of any kind whatsoever (whether known or unknown) which Employee ever had, may have, or now has against Company and other current or former subsidiaries or affiliates of the Company and their past, present and future officers, directors, employees, agents, insurers and attorneys (collectively, the "Releasees"), arising from or relating to (directly or indirectly) Employee's employment or the termination of employment or other events that have occurred as of the date of execution of this Agreement, including but not limited to:

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a. claims for violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1981, the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, Executive Order 11246, Executive Order 11141, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Employee Retirement Income Security Act;

b. claims for violations of any other federal or state statute or regulation or local ordinance;

c. claims for lost or unpaid wages, compensation, or benefits, defamation, intentional or negligent infliction of emotional distress, assault, battery, wrongful or constructive discharge, negligent hiring, retention or supervision, fraud, misrepresentation, conversion, tortious interference, breach of contract, or breach of fiduciary duty;

d. claims to benefits under any bonus, severance, workforce reduction, early retirement, outplacement, or any other similar type plan sponsored by the Company (except for those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement); or

e. any other claims under state law arising in tort or contract.

**2. Claims Not Released Under This Agreement.**

In signing this Release, Employee is not releasing any claims that may arise under the terms of this Release or which may arise out of events occurring after the date Employee executes this Release.

Employee also is not releasing claims to benefits that Employee is already entitled to receive under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. However, Employee understands and acknowledges that nothing herein is intended to or shall be construed to require the Company to institute or continue in effect any particular plan or benefit sponsored by the Company, and the Company hereby reserves the right to amend or terminate any of its benefit programs at any time in accordance with the procedures set forth in such plans. Employee further understands and acknowledges that any continuing obligation under a Company incentive-based plan, program or arrangement or pursuant to any Company policy

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or provision regarding recoupment of compensation is not altered by this Release and nothing herein is intended to nor shall be construed otherwise.

Nothing in this Release shall prohibit Employee from engaging in activities required or protected under applicable law or from communicating, either voluntarily or otherwise, with any governmental agency concerning any potential violation of the law.

3. **No Assignment of Claim.** Employee represents that Employee has not assigned or transferred, or purported to assign or transfer, any claims or any portion thereof or interest therein to any party prior to the date of this Release.

4. **Compensation.** In accordance with the Agreement, the Company agrees to pay Employee or, if Employee becomes eligible for payments and benefits under Section 12 but dies before receipt thereof, Employee's spouse or estate, as the case may be, the amounts provided in Section 12 of the Agreement.

5. **Publicity; No Disparaging Statement.** Except as otherwise provided in Section 15 of the Agreement, Section 2 of this Release, and as privileged by law, Employee and the Company covenant and agree that they shall not engage in any communications with persons outside the Company which shall disparage one another or interfere with their existing or prospective business relationships.

6. **No Admission Of Liability.** This Release shall not in any way be construed as an admission by the Company or Employee of any improper actions or liability whatsoever as to one another, and each specifically disclaims any liability to or improper actions against the other or any other person.

7. **Voluntary Execution.** Employee warrants, represents and agrees that Employee has been encouraged in writing to seek advice regarding this Release from an attorney and tax advisor prior to signing it; that this Release represents written notice to do so; that Employee has been given the opportunity and sufficient time to seek such advice; and that Employee fully understands the meaning and contents of this Release. Employee further represents and warrants that Employee was not coerced, threatened or otherwise forced to sign this Release, and that Employee's signature appearing hereinafter is voluntary and genuine. EMPLOYEE UNDERSTANDS THAT EMPLOYEE MAY TAKE UP TO TWENTY-ONE (21) DAYS (OR, IN THE CASE OF AN EXIT INCENTIVE OR OTHER EMPLOYMENT TERMINATION PROGRAM OFFERED TO A GROUP OR CLASS OF EMPLOYEES, UP TO FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS) TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO ENTER INTO THIS RELEASE.

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8. **Ability to Revoke Agreement.** EMPLOYEE UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS RELEASE MAY BE REVOKED BY EMPLOYEE BY NOTIFYING THE COMPANY IN WRITING OF SUCH REVOCATION WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS OF EMPLOYEE'S EXECUTION OF THIS RELEASE AND THAT THIS RELEASE IS NOT EFFECTIVE UNTIL THE EXPIRATION OF SUCH SEVEN (7) DAY PERIOD. EMPLOYEE UNDERSTANDS THAT UPON THE EXPIRATION OF SUCH SEVEN (7) DAY PERIOD THIS RELEASE WILL BE BINDING UPON EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYEE'S HEIRS, ADMINISTRATORS, REPRESENTATIVES, EXECUTORS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS AND WILL BE IRREVOCABLE.

Acknowledged and Agreed To:

“COMPANY”

DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE, I AM GIVING UP RIGHTS I MAY HAVE. I UNDERSTAND THAT I DO NOT HAVE TO SIGN THIS RELEASE.

“EMPLOYEE”

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESSED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (“Agreement”), effective June 15, 2015 (“Effective Date”), is made and entered into by and between **DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION** (the “Company”), and Jeffery C. Owen (“Employee”).

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, Company desires to employ Employee upon the terms and subject to the conditions hereinafter set forth, and Employee desires to accept such employment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of the premises, the mutual promises, covenants and agreements contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. **Employment.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Company agrees to employ Employee as Executive Vice President, Store Operations of the Company.
  2. **Term.** The term of this Agreement shall end March 31, 2018 (“Term”), unless otherwise terminated pursuant to Sections 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 hereof. The Term shall be automatically extended from month to month, for up to six (6) months, unless the Company gives written notice to Employee at least one month prior to the expiration of the original or any extended Term that no extension or further extension, as applicable, will occur or unless the Company replaces this Agreement with a new agreement or, in writing, extends or renews the Term of this Agreement for a period that is longer than six months from the expiration of the original Term. Unless otherwise noted, all references to the “Term” shall be deemed to refer to the original Term and any extension or renewal thereof.
  3. **Position, Duties and Administrative Support.**
    - a. **Position.** Employee shall perform the duties of the position noted in Section 1 above and shall perform such other duties and responsibilities as Employee’s supervisor or the Company’s CEO may reasonably direct.
    - b. **Full-Time Efforts.** Employee shall perform and discharge faithfully and diligently such duties and responsibilities and shall devote Employee’s full-time efforts to the business and affairs of Company. Employee agrees to promote the best interests of the Company and to take no action that is likely to damage the public image or reputation of the Company, its subsidiaries or its affiliates.
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c. **Administrative Support.** Employee shall be provided with office space and administrative support.

d. **No Interference With Duties.** Employee shall not devote time to other activities which would inhibit or otherwise interfere with the proper performance of Employee's duties and shall not be directly or indirectly concerned or interested in any other business occupation, activity or interest other than by reason of holding a non-controlling interest as a shareholder, securities holder or debenture holder in a corporation quoted on a nationally recognized exchange (subject to any limitations in the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics). Employee may not serve as a member of a board of directors of a for-profit company, other than the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates, without the express approval of the CEO and, if required pursuant to Company policy, the Board (or an authorized Board committee). Under no circumstances may Employee serve on more than one other board of a for-profit company.

4. **Work Standard.** Employee agrees to comply with all terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, as well as all applicable Company work policies, procedures and rules. Employee also agrees to comply with all federal, state and local statutes, regulations and public ordinances governing Employee's performance hereunder.

5. **Compensation.**

a. **Base Salary.** Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, the Company shall pay Employee, and Employee shall accept, an annual base salary ("Base Salary") of no less than Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000.00). The Base Salary shall be paid in accordance with Company's normal payroll practices (but no less frequently than monthly) and may be increased from time to time at the sole discretion of the Company.

b. **Incentive Bonus.** Employee's incentive compensation for the Term of this Agreement shall be determined under the Company's annual bonus program for officers at Employee's grade level, as it may be amended from time to time. The actual bonus paid pursuant to this Section 5(b), if any, shall be based on criteria established by the Board, its Compensation Committee and/or the CEO, as applicable, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the annual bonus program for officers. Any bonus payments due hereunder shall be payable to the Employee no later than 2 1/2 months after the end of the Company's taxable year or the calendar year, whichever is later, in which Employee is first vested in

such bonus payments for purposes of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code").

c. **Vacation.** Employee shall be entitled to four weeks paid vacation time within the first year of employment. After five years of employment, Employee shall be entitled to five weeks paid vacation. Vacation time is granted on the anniversary of Employee's hire date each year. Any available but unused vacation as of the annual anniversary of employment date or at Employee's termination date shall be forfeited.

d. **Business Expenses.** Employee shall be reimbursed for all reasonable business expenses incurred in carrying out the work hereunder. Employee shall adhere to the Company's expense reimbursement policies and procedures. In no event will any such reimbursement be made later than the last day of Employee's taxable year following Employee's taxable year in which Employee incurs the reimbursable expense.

e. **Perquisites.** Employee shall be entitled to receive such other executive perquisites, fringe and other benefits as are provided to officers at the same grade level under any of the Company's plans and/or programs in effect from time to time.

6. **Cooperation.** Employee agrees to cooperate with the Company in the investigation review, audit, or assessment, whether internal or external, of any matters involving Dollar General as well as the defense or prosecution of any claims or other causes of action made against or on behalf of the Company, including any claims or actions against its affiliates, officers, directors and employees. Employee's cooperation in connection with such matters includes, without limitation, being available (upon reasonable notice and without unreasonably interfering with his/her other professional obligations) to meet with the Company and its legal or other designated advisors regarding any matters in which Employee has been involved; to prepare for any proceeding (including, without limitation, depositions, consultation, discovery or trial); to provide truthful affidavits; to assist with any audit, inspection, proceeding or other inquiry; and to act as a witness to provide truthful testimony in connection with any legal proceeding affecting the Company. Employee further agrees that if Employee is contacted by any person or entity regarding matters Employee knows or reasonably should know to be adverse to the Company, Employee shall promptly (within 48 hours) notify the Company in writing by sending such notification to the General Counsel, Dollar General Corporation, 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072; facsimile (615) 855-5517. The Company agrees to reimburse Employee for any reasonable documented expenses incurred in providing such cooperation.

7. **Benefits.** During the Term, Employee (and, where applicable, Employee's eligible dependents) shall be eligible to participate in those various Company welfare benefit plans, practices and policies in place during the Term (including, without limitation, medical, pharmacy, dental, vision, disability, employee life, accidental death and travel accident insurance plans and other programs, if any) to the extent allowed under and in accordance with the terms of those plans. In addition, Employee shall be eligible to participate, pursuant to their terms, in any other benefit plans offered by the Company to similarly-situated officers or other employees from time to time during the Term (excluding plans applicable solely to certain officers of the Company in accordance with the express terms of such plans). Collectively the plans and arrangements described in this Section 7, as they may be amended or modified in accordance with their terms, are hereinafter referred to as the "Benefits Plans." Notwithstanding the above, Employee understands and acknowledges that Employee is not eligible for benefits under any other severance plan, program, or policy maintained by the Company, if any exists, and that the only severance benefits Employee is entitled to are set forth in this Agreement.

8. **Termination for Cause.** This Agreement is not intended to change the at-will nature of Employee's employment with Company, and it may be terminated at any time by either party, with or without cause. If this Agreement and Employee's employment are terminated by Company for "Cause" (Termination for Cause) as that term is defined below, it will be without any liability owing to Employee or Employee's dependents and beneficiaries under this Agreement (recognizing, however, that benefits covered by or owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement). Any one of the following conditions or Employee conduct shall constitute "Cause":

- a. Any act involving fraud or dishonesty, or any material act of misconduct relating to Employee's performance of his or her duties;
- b. Any material breach of any SEC or other law or regulation or any Company policy governing trading or dealing with stocks, securities, public debt instruments, bonds, or investments and the like or with inappropriate disclosure or "tipping" relating to any stock, security, public debt instrument, bond or investment;
- c. Any material violation of the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (or the equivalent code in place at the time);

d. Other than as required by law, the carrying out of any activity or the making of any public statement which prejudices or reduces the good name and standing of Company or any of its affiliates or would bring any one of these into public contempt or ridicule;

e. Attendance at work in a state of intoxication or being found with any drug or substance possession of which would amount to a criminal offense;

f. Assault or other act of violence;

g. Conviction of or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any felony whatsoever or any misdemeanor that would preclude employment under the Company's hiring policy; or

h. Willful or repeated refusal or failure substantially to perform Employee's material obligations and duties hereunder or those reasonably directed by Employee's supervisor, the CEO and/or the Board (except in connection with a Disability).

A termination for Cause shall be effective when the Company has given Employee written notice of its intention to terminate for Cause, describing those acts or omissions that are believed to constitute Cause, and has given Employee ten days to respond.

**9. Termination upon Death.** Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, this Agreement shall terminate immediately upon Employee's death, and the Company shall have no further liability to Employee or Employee's dependents and beneficiaries under this Agreement, except for those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement.

**10. Disability.** If a Disability (as defined below) of Employee occurs during the Term, unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Company may notify Employee of the Company's intention to terminate Employee's employment. In that event, employment shall terminate effective on the termination date provided in such notice of termination (the "Disability Effective Date"), and this Agreement shall terminate without further liability to Employee, Employee's dependents and beneficiaries, except for those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. In this Agreement, "Disability" means:

a. A long-term disability, as defined in the Company's applicable long-term disability plan as then in effect, if any; or

b. Employee's inability to perform the duties under this Agreement in accordance with the Company's expectations because of a medically determinable physical

or mental impairment that (i) can reasonably be expected to result in death or (ii) has lasted or can reasonably be expected to last longer than ninety (90) consecutive days. Under this Section 10(b), unless otherwise required by law, the existence of a Disability shall be determined by the Company, only upon receipt of a written medical opinion from a qualified physician selected by or acceptable to the Company. In this circumstance, to the extent permitted by law, Employee shall, if reasonably requested by the Company, submit to a physical examination by that qualified physician. Nothing in this Section 10(b) is intended to nor shall it be deemed to broaden or modify the definition of "disability" in the Company's long-term disability plan.

**11. Employee's Termination of Employment.**

a. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, Employee may terminate employment and this Agreement at any time, for no reason, with thirty (30) days written notice to Company (and in the event that Employee is providing notice of termination for Good Reason, Employee must provide such notice within 30 days after the event purported to give rise to Employee's claim for Good Reason first occurs). In such event, Employee shall not be entitled to those payments and benefits listed in Section 12 below unless Employee terminates employment for Good Reason, as defined below, or unless Section 12(a)(iii) applies.

b. Upon any termination of employment, Employee shall be entitled to any earned but unpaid Base Salary through the date of termination and such other vested benefits under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, such unpaid Base Salary shall be paid to Employee as soon as practicable after the effective date of termination in accordance with the Company's usual payroll practices (not less frequently than monthly); provided, however, that if payment at such time would result in a prohibited acceleration under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code, then such amount shall be paid at the time the amount would otherwise have been paid absent such prohibited acceleration.

c. Good Reason shall mean any of the following actions taken by the Company:

- (i) A reduction by the Company in Employee's Base Salary or target bonus level;

(ii) The Company shall fail to continue in effect any significant Company-sponsored compensation plan or benefit (without replacing it with a similar plan or with a compensation equivalent), unless such action is in connection with across-the-board plan changes or terminations similarly affecting at least 95 percent of all officers of the Company or 100 percent of officers at the same grade level;

(iii) The Company's principal executive offices shall be moved to a location outside the middle-Tennessee area, or Employee is required (absent mutual agreement) to be based anywhere other than the Company's principal executive offices;

(iv) Without Employee's written consent, the assignment to Employee by the Company of duties inconsistent with, or the significant reduction of the title, powers and functions associated with, Employee's position, title or office as described in Section 3 above, unless such action is the result of a restructuring or realignment of duties and responsibilities by the Company, for business reasons, that leaves Employee at the same rate of Base Salary, annual target bonus opportunity, and officer level (i.e., Executive Vice President, etc.) and with a similar level of responsibility, or unless such action is the result of Employee's failure to meet pre-established and objective performance criteria;

(v) Any material breach by the Company of this Agreement; or

(vi) The failure of any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, assignment, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company to assume expressly and agree to perform this Agreement in the same manner and to the same extent that the Company would be required to perform it if no such succession had taken place.

Good Reason shall not include Employee's death, Disability or Termination for Cause or Employee's termination for *any* reason other than Good Reason as defined above.

d. Prior to Employee being entitled to the payments or benefits described in Section 12 below, the Company shall have the opportunity to cure any claimed event of Good Reason within thirty (30) days after receiving written notice from Employee specifying the same.

**12. Termination without Cause or by Employee for Good Reason.**

a. The continuation of Base Salary and other payments and benefits described in Section 12(b) shall be triggered *only* upon one or more of the following circumstances:

(i) The Company terminates Employee (as it may do at any time) without Cause; it being understood that termination by death or Disability does not constitute termination without Cause;

(ii) Employee terminates for Good Reason;

(iii) The Company fails to offer to renew, extend or replace this Agreement before, at, or within six (6) months after, the end of its original three-year Term (or any term provided for in a written renewal or extension of the original Term), and Employee resigns from employment with the Company within sixty (60) days after such failure, unless such failure is accompanied by a mutually agreeable severance arrangement between the Company and Employee or is the result of Employee's retirement or other termination from the Company other than for Good Reason notwithstanding the Company's offer to renew, extend or replace this Agreement.

b. In the event of one of the triggers referenced in Sections 12(a)(i) through (iii) above, then, on the sixtieth (60th) day after Employee's termination of employment, but contingent upon the execution and effectiveness of the Release attached hereto and made a part hereof, and subject to Section 23(o) below, Employee shall be entitled to the following:

(i) Continuation of Employee's Base Salary as of the date immediately preceding the termination (or, if the termination of employment is for Good Reason due to the reduction of Employee's Base Salary, then such rate of Base Salary as in effect immediately prior to such reduction) for 24 months, payable in accordance with the Company's normal payroll cycle and procedures (but not less frequently than monthly) with a lump sum payment on the sixtieth (60th) day after Employee's termination of employment of the amounts Employee would otherwise have received during the sixty (60) days after Employee's termination had the payments begun immediately after Employee's termination of employment. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the amount of any payment or entitlement to payment of the aforesaid Base Salary continuation shall be forfeited or, if paid, subject to recovery by the Company in the event and to the extent of any base salary earned by the Employee as a result of subsequent employment during the 24 months

after Employee's termination of employment. In no event shall Employee be obligated to seek other employment or take any other action by way of mitigation of such amounts payable to Employee and, except as provided in the preceding sentence, such amounts shall not be reduced whether or not the Employee obtains other employment.

(ii) A lump sum payment of two times the amount of the average percentage of target bonus paid or to be paid to employees at the same job grade level of Employee (if any) under the annual bonus programs for officers in respect of the Company's two fiscal years immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the termination date occurs.

(iii) A lump sum payment in an amount equal to two times the annual contribution that would have been made by the Company in respect of the plan year in which such termination of employment occurs for Employee's participation in the Company's medical, pharmacy, dental and vision benefits programs.

(iv) Reasonable outplacement services, as determined and provided by the Company, for one year or until other employment is secured, whichever comes first.

All payments and benefits otherwise provided to Employee pursuant to this Section 12 shall be forfeited if a copy of the Release attached hereto executed by Employee is not provided to the Company within twenty-one (21) days after Employee's termination date (unless otherwise required by law) or if the Release is revoked; and no payment or benefit hereunder shall be provided to Employee prior to the Company's receipt of the Release and the expiration of the period of revocation provided in the Release.

c. In the event that there is a material breach by Employee of any continuing obligations under this Agreement or the Release after termination of employment, any unpaid amounts under this Section 12 shall be forfeited and Company shall retain any other rights available to it under law or equity. Any payments or reimbursements under this Section 12 shall not be deemed the continuation of Employee's employment for any purpose. Except as specifically enumerated in the Release, the Company's payment obligations under this Section 12 will not negate or reduce (i) any amounts otherwise due but not yet paid to Employee by the Company, or (ii) any other amounts payable to Employee outside this Agreement, or (iii) those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. The Company



may, at any time and in its sole discretion, make a lump-sum payment of any or all amounts, or any or all remaining amounts, due to Employee under this Section 12 if, or to the extent, the payment is not subject to Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code.

**13. Effect of 280G.** Any payments and benefits due under Section 12 that constitute “parachute payments” within the meaning of Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code (“Code Section 280G”), plus all other “parachute payments” as defined under Code Section 280G that might otherwise be due to the Employee (collectively, with payments and benefits due under Section 12, “Total Payments”), shall be limited to the Capped Amount. The “Capped Amount” shall be the amount otherwise payable, reduced in such amount and to such extent so that no amount of the Total Payments, would constitute an “excess parachute payment” under Code Section 280G. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence but contingent upon Employee’s timely execution and the effectiveness of the Release attached hereto and made a part hereof as provided in Section 12 hereof, the Employee’s Total Payments shall not be limited to the Capped Amount if it is determined that Employee would receive at least \$50,000 in greater after-tax proceeds if no such reduction is made. The calculation of the Capped Amount and all other determinations relating to the applicability of Code Section 280G (and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder) to the payments contemplated by this Agreement shall be made by the tax department of an independent public accounting firm, or, at Company’s discretion, by a compensation consulting firm, and such determinations shall be binding upon Employee and the Company. Unless Employee and the Company shall otherwise agree (provided such agreement does not cause any payment or benefit hereunder which is deferred compensation covered by Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code to be in non-compliance with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code), in the event the Payments are to be reduced, the Company shall reduce or eliminate the payments or benefits to Employee by first reducing or eliminating those payments or benefits which are not payable in cash and then by reducing or eliminating cash payments, in each case in reverse order beginning with payments or benefits which are to be paid the farthest in time from the date of the “change in ownership or control” (within the meaning of Code Section 280G). Any reduction pursuant to the preceding sentence shall take precedence over the provisions of any other plan, arrangement or agreement governing Employee’s rights and entitlements to any benefits or compensation.

**14. Publicity; No Disparaging Statement.** Except as otherwise provided in Section 15 hereof, Employee and the Company covenant and agree that they shall not engage in any communications to persons outside the Company which shall disparage one another or interfere with their existing or prospective business relationships.

15. **Confidentiality and Legal Process.** Employee agrees to keep the proprietary terms of this Agreement confidential and to refrain from disclosing any information concerning this Agreement to anyone other than Employee's immediate family and personal agents or advisors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Agreement is intended to prohibit Employee or the Company from performing any duty or obligation that shall arise as a matter of law. Specifically, Employee and the Company shall continue to be under a duty to truthfully respond to any legal and valid subpoena or other legal process. This Agreement is not intended in any way to proscribe Employee's or the Company's right and ability to provide information to any federal, state or local agency in response or adherence to the lawful exercise of such agency's authority.

16. **Business Protection Provision Definitions.**

a. **Preamble.** As a material inducement to the Company to enter into this Agreement, and in recognition of the valuable experience, knowledge and proprietary information Employee has gained or will gain while employed, Employee agrees to abide by and adhere to the business protection provisions in Sections 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 herein.

b. **Definitions.** For purposes of Sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 herein:

(i) "Competitive Position" shall mean any employment, consulting, advisory, directorship, agency, promotional or independent contractor arrangement between Employee and (x) any person or Entity engaged wholly or in material part in the business in which the Company is engaged (i.e., the discount consumable basics or general merchandise retail business), including but not limited to such other similar businesses as Albertsons/Safeway, ALDI, Big Lots, BJ's Wholesale Club, Casey's General Stores, Circle K, Costco, CVS, Dollar Tree Stores, Family Dollar Stores, Fred's, Kmart, Kroger, 99 Cents Only Stores, The Pantry, Pilot Flying J, Rite-Aid, Sam's Club, 7-Eleven, Target, Walgreen's and Wal-Mart, or (y) any person or Entity then attempting or planning to enter the discount consumable basics retail business, whereby Employee is required to perform services on behalf of or for the benefit of such person or Entity which are substantially similar to the services Employee provided or directed at any time while employed by the Company or any of its affiliates.

(ii) "Confidential Information" shall mean the proprietary or confidential data, information, documents or materials (whether oral, written, electronic or otherwise) belonging to or pertaining to the Company, other than "Trade Secrets" (as

defined below), which is of tangible or intangible value to the Company and the details of which are not generally known to the competitors of the Company. Confidential Information shall also include any items marked "CONFIDENTIAL" or some similar designation or which are otherwise identified as being confidential.

(iii) "Entity" or "Entities" shall mean any business, individual, partnership, joint venture, agency, governmental agency, body or subdivision, association, firm, corporation, limited liability company or other entity of any kind.

(iv) "Restricted Period" shall mean two (2) years following Employee's termination date.

(v) "Territory" shall include individually and as a total area those states in the United States in which the Company maintains stores at Employee's termination date or those states in which the Company has specific and demonstrable plans to open stores within six months of Employee's termination date.

(vi) "Trade Secrets" shall mean information or data of or about the Company, including, but not limited to, technical or non-technical data, formulas, patterns, compilations, programs, devices, methods, techniques, drawings, processes, financial data, financial plans, product plans or lists of actual or potential customers or suppliers that: (A) derives economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; (B) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy; and (C) any other information which is defined as a "trade secret" under applicable law.

(vii) "Work Product" shall mean all tangible work product, property, data, documentation, "know-how," concepts or plans, inventions, improvements, techniques and processes relating to the Company that were conceived, discovered, created, written, revised or developed by Employee while employed by the Company.

**17. Nondisclosure: Ownership of Proprietary Property.**

a. In recognition of the Company's need to protect its legitimate business interests, Employee hereby covenants and agrees that, for the Term and thereafter (as described below), Employee shall regard and treat Trade Secrets and Confidential Information as strictly confidential and wholly-owned by the Company and shall not, for any

reason, in any fashion, either directly or indirectly, use, sell, lend, lease, distribute, license, give, transfer, assign, show, disclose, disseminate, reproduce, copy, misappropriate or otherwise communicate any Trade Secrets or Confidential Information to any person or Entity for any purpose other than in accordance with Employee's duties under this Agreement or as required by applicable law. This provision shall apply to each item constituting a Trade Secret at all times it remains a "trade secret" under applicable law and shall apply to any Confidential Information, during employment and for the Restricted Period thereafter.

b. Employee shall exercise best efforts to ensure the continued confidentiality of all Trade Secrets and Confidential Information and shall immediately notify the Company of any unauthorized disclosure or use of any Trade Secrets or Confidential Information of which Employee becomes aware. Employee shall assist the Company, to the extent reasonably requested, in the protection or procurement of any intellectual property protection or other rights in any of the Trade Secrets or Confidential Information.

c. All Work Product shall be owned exclusively by the Company. To the greatest extent possible, any Work Product shall be deemed to be "work made for hire" (as defined in the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C.A. § 101 et seq., as amended), and Employee hereby unconditionally and irrevocably transfers and assigns to the Company all right, title and interest Employee currently has or may have by operation of law or otherwise in or to any Work Product, including, without limitation, all patents, copyrights, trademarks (and the goodwill associated therewith), trade secrets, service marks (and the goodwill associated therewith) and other intellectual property rights. Employee agrees to execute and deliver to the Company any transfers, assignments, documents or other instruments which the Company may deem necessary or appropriate, from time to time, to protect the rights granted herein or to vest complete title and ownership of any and all Work Product, and all associated intellectual property and other rights therein, exclusively in the Company.

**18. Non-Interference with Employees.** Through employment and thereafter through the Restricted Period, Employee will not, either directly or indirectly, alone or in conjunction with any other person or Entity: actively recruit, solicit, attempt to solicit, induce or attempt to induce any person who is an exempt employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates (or has been within the last 6 months) to leave or cease such employment for any reason whatsoever;

**19. Non-Interference with Business Relationships.**

a. Employee acknowledges that, in the course of employment, Employee will learn about Company's business, services, materials, programs and products and the manner in which they are developed, marketed, serviced and provided. Employee knows and acknowledges that the Company has invested considerable time and money in developing its product sales and real estate development programs and relationships, vendor and other service provider relationships and agreements, store layouts and fixtures, and marketing techniques and that those things are unique and original. Employee further acknowledges that the Company has a strong business reason to keep secret information relating to Company's business concepts, ideas, programs, plans and processes, so as not to aid Company's competitors. Accordingly, Employee acknowledges and agrees that the protection outlined in (b) below is necessary and reasonable.

b. During the Restricted Period, Employee will not, on Employee's own behalf or on behalf of any other person or Entity, solicit, contact, call upon, or communicate with any person or entity or any representative of any person or entity who has a business relationship with Company and with whom Employee had contact while employed, if such contact or communication would likely interfere with Company's business relationships or result in an unfair competitive advantage over Company.

**20. Agreement Not to Work in Competitive Position.** Employee covenants and agrees not to accept, obtain or work in a Competitive Position for a company or entity that operates anywhere within the Territory for the Restricted Period.

**21. Acknowledgements Regarding Sections 16-20.**

a. Employee and Company expressly covenant and agree that the scope, territorial, time and other restrictions contained in Sections 16 through 20 of this Agreement constitute the most reasonable and equitable restrictions possible to protect the business interests of the Company given: (i) the business of the Company; (ii) the competitive nature of the Company's industry; and (iii) that Employee's skills are such that Employee could easily find alternative, commensurate employment or consulting work in Employee's field which would not violate any of the provisions of this Agreement.

b. Employee acknowledges that the compensation and benefits described in Sections 5 and 12 are also in consideration of his/her covenants and agreements contained in Sections 16 through 20 hereof and that a breach by Employee of the obligations contained in

Sections 16 through 20 hereof shall forfeit Employee's right to such compensation and benefits.

c. Employee acknowledges and agrees that a breach by Employee of the obligations set forth in Sections 16 through 20 will likely cause Company irreparable injury and that, in such event, the Company shall be entitled to injunctive relief in addition to such other and further relief as may be proper.

d. The parties agree that if, at any time, a court of competent jurisdiction determines that any of the provisions of Section 16 through 20 are unreasonable under Tennessee law as to time or area or both, the Company shall be entitled to enforce this Agreement for such period of time or within such area as may be determined reasonable by such court.

**22. Return of Materials.** Upon Employee's termination, Employee shall return to the Company all written, electronic, recorded or graphic materials of any kind belonging or relating to the Company or its affiliates, including any originals, copies and abstracts in Employee's possession or control.

**23. General Provisions.**

a. Amendment. This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a writing signed by both of the parties hereto.

b. Binding Agreement. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon Employee, his/her heirs and personal representatives, and the Company and its successors and assigns.

c. Waiver Of Breach: Specific Performance. The waiver of a breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not operate or be construed as a waiver of any other breach. Each of the parties to this Agreement will be entitled to enforce this Agreement, specifically, to recover damages by reason of any breach of this Agreement, and to exercise all other rights existing in that party's favor. The parties hereto agree and acknowledge that money damages may not be an adequate remedy for any breach of the provisions of this Agreement and that any party may apply to any court of law or equity of competent jurisdiction for specific performance or injunctive relief to enforce or prevent any violations of the provisions of this Agreement.

d. Unsecured General Creditor. The Company shall neither reserve nor specifically set aside funds for the payment of its obligations under this Agreement, and such obligations shall be paid solely from the general assets of the Company.

e. No Effect On Other Arrangements. It is expressly understood and agreed that the payments made in accordance with this Agreement are in addition to any other benefits or compensation to which Employee may be entitled or for which Employee may be eligible.

f. Tax Withholding. There shall be deducted from each payment under this Agreement the amount of any tax required by any governmental authority to be withheld and paid over by the Company to such governmental authority for the account of Employee.

g. Notices.

(i) All notices and all other communications provided for herein shall be in writing and delivered personally to the other designated party, or mailed by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, or delivered by a recognized national overnight courier service, or sent by facsimile, as follows:

If to Company to:                      Dollar General Corporation  
Attn: General Counsel  
100 Mission Ridge  
Goodlettsville, TN 37072-2171  
Facsimile: (615) 855-5517

If to Employee to:                      (Last address of Employee known to Company unless otherwise directed in writing by Employee)

(ii) All notices sent under this Agreement shall be deemed given twenty-four (24) hours after sent by facsimile or courier, seventy-two (72) hours after sent by certified or registered mail and when delivered if by personal delivery.

(iii) Either party hereto may change the address to which notice is to be sent hereunder by written notice to the other party in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

h. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee (without giving effect to conflict of laws).

i. Arbitration. If any contest or dispute arises between the parties with respect to this Agreement, such contest or dispute shall be submitted to binding arbitration for resolution in Nashville, Tennessee in accordance with the rules and procedures of the

Employment Dispute Resolution Rules of the American Arbitration Association then in effect. The Company and Employee shall each bear 50 percent of the costs related to such arbitration. If the arbitrator determines that Employee is the prevailing party in the dispute, then the Company shall reimburse Employee for his/her reasonable legal or other fees and expenses incurred in such arbitration subject to and within ten (10) days after his/her request for reimbursement accompanied by evidence that the fees and expenses were incurred. Any reimbursement hereunder shall be paid to Employee promptly and in no event later than the end of the year next following the date the expense was incurred. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon all parties hereto and shall be rendered pursuant to a written decision, which contains a detailed recital of the arbitrator's reasoning. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Employee acknowledges and agrees that the Company, its subsidiaries and any of their respective affiliates shall be entitled to injunctive or other relief in order to enforce the covenant not to compete, covenant not to solicit and/or confidentiality covenants as set forth in Sections 14, 16 through 20 and 22 of this Agreement.

j. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the full and complete understanding of the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter contained herein and, unless specifically provided herein, this Agreement supersedes and replaces any prior agreement, either oral or written, which Employee may have with Company that relates generally to the same subject matter.

k. Assignment. This Agreement may not be assigned by Employee, and any attempted assignment shall be null and void and of no force or effect.

l. Severability. If any one or more of the terms, provisions, covenants or restrictions of this Agreement shall be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, then the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect, and to that end the provisions hereof shall be deemed severable.

m. Section Headings. The Section headings set forth herein are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement whatsoever.

n. Voluntary Agreement. Employee and Company represent and agree that each has reviewed all aspects of this Agreement, has carefully read and fully understands all provisions of this Agreement, and is voluntarily entering into this Agreement. Each party



represents and agrees that such party has had the opportunity to review any and all aspects of this Agreement with legal, tax or other adviser(s) of such party's choice before executing this Agreement.

o. Deferred Compensation Omnibus Provision. It is intended that any payment or benefit which is provided pursuant to or in connection with this Agreement which is considered to be deferred compensation subject to Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code ("Code Section 409A") shall be paid and provided in a manner, and at such time, including without limitation payment and provision of benefits only in connection with the occurrence of a permissible payment event contained in Code Section 409A (e.g. death, disability, separation from service from the Company and its affiliates as defined for purposes of Code Section 409A), and in such form, as complies with the applicable requirements of Code Section 409A to avoid the unfavorable tax consequences provided therein for non-compliance. In connection with effecting such compliance with Code Section 409A, the following shall apply:

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Company is authorized to amend this Agreement, to void or amend any election made by Employee under this Agreement and/or to delay the payment of any monies and/or provision of any benefits in such manner as may be determined by it to be necessary or appropriate to comply, or to evidence or further evidence required compliance, with Code Section 409A (including any transition or grandfather rules thereunder).

(ii) Neither Employee nor the Company shall take any action to accelerate or delay the payment of any monies and/or provision of any benefits in any manner which would not be in compliance with Code Section 409A (including any transition or grandfather rules thereunder).

(iii) If Employee is a specified employee for purposes of Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i), any payment or provision of benefits in connection with a separation from service payment event (as determined for purposes of Code Section 409A) shall not be made until six months after Employee's separation from service (the "409A Deferral Period"). In the event such payments are otherwise due to be made in installments or periodically during the 409A Deferral Period, the payments which would otherwise have been made in the 409A Deferral Period shall be accumulated and paid in a lump sum as soon as the 409A Deferral Period ends, and

the balance of the payments shall be made as otherwise scheduled. In the event benefits are required to be deferred, any such benefit may be provided during the 409A Deferral Period at Employee's expense, with Employee having a right to reimbursement from the Company once the 409A Deferral Period ends, and the balance of the benefits shall be provided as otherwise scheduled.

(iv) If a Change in Control occurs but the Change in Control does not constitute a change in control event within the meaning of Code Section 409A (a "409A Change in Control"), then payment of any amount or provision of any benefit under this Agreement which is considered to be deferred compensation subject to Code Section 409A shall be deferred until another permissible payment event contained in Code Section 409A occurs (e.g., death, disability, separation from service from the Company and its affiliated companies as defined for purposes of Code Section 409A), including any deferral of payment or provision of benefits for the 409A Deferral Period as provided above.

(v) For purposes of this Agreement, all rights to payments and benefits hereunder shall be treated as rights to receive a series of separate payments and benefits to the fullest extent allowed by Code Section 409A. If under this Agreement, an amount is to be paid in two or more installments, for purposes of Code Section 409A, each installment shall be treated as a separate payment. In the event any payment payable upon termination of employment would be exempt from Code Section 409A under Treas. Reg. § 1.409A-1(b)(9)(iii) but for the amount of such payment, the determination of the payments to Employee that are exempt under such provision shall be made by applying the exemption to payments based on chronological order beginning with the payments paid closest in time on or after such termination of employment.

(vi) For purposes of determining time of (but not entitlement to) payment or provision of deferred compensation under this Agreement under Code Section 409A in connection with a termination of employment, termination of employment will be read to mean a "separation from service" within the meaning of Code Section 409A where it is reasonably anticipated that no further services would be performed after that date or that the level of bona fide services Employee would perform after that date (whether as an employee or independent contractor) would permanently decrease

to less than 50% of the average level of bona fide services performed over the immediately preceding thirty-six (36) month period.

(vii) For purposes of this Agreement, a key employee for purposes of Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) shall be determined on the basis of the applicable 12-month period ending on the specified employee identification date designated by the Company consistently for purposes of this Agreement and similar agreements or, if no such designation is made, based on the default rules and regulations under Code Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i).

(viii) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Company shall not be liable to Employee if any payment or benefit which is to be provided pursuant to this Agreement and which is considered deferred compensation subject to Code Section 409A otherwise fails to comply with, or be exempt from, the requirements of Code Section 409A.

(ix) With regard to any provision herein that provides for reimbursement of expenses or in-kind benefits that are subject to Code Section 409A, except as permitted by Code Section 409A, (x) the right to reimbursement or in-kind benefits is not subject to liquidation or exchange for another benefit, and (y) the amount of expenses eligible for reimbursement, or in-kind benefits, provided during any taxable year of Employee shall not affect the expenses eligible for reimbursement, or in-kind benefits to be provided, in any other taxable year of Employee, provided that the foregoing clause (y) shall not be violated with regard to expenses reimbursed under any arrangement covered by Code Section 105(b) solely because such expenses are subject to a limit related to the period the arrangement is in effect. All reimbursements shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Company's reimbursement policies but in no event later than Employee's taxable year following Employee's taxable year in which the related expense is incurred.

(x) When, if ever, a payment under this Agreement specifies a payment period with reference to a number of days (e.g., "payment shall be made within ten (10) days following the date of termination"), the actual date of payment within the specified period shall be within the sole discretion of the Company.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed, or caused their duly authorized representative to execute this Agreement to be effective as of the Effective Date.

Date: 11-3-15

DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION

By: /s/ Rhonda M. Taylor

Name: Rhonda M. Taylor

Title: EVP, GC

“EMPLOYEE”

/s/ Jeffery C. Owen

**Jeffery C. Owen**

Date: 11/2/15

Witnessed By:

/s/ Nancy Abbott

**Name of Witness**

**Addendum to Employment Agreement with Jeffery C. Owen**

**RELEASE AGREEMENT**

THIS RELEASE ("Release") is made and entered into by and between \_\_\_\_\_ ("Employee") and **DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION**, and its successor or assigns ("Company").

WHEREAS, Employee and Company have agreed that Employee's employment with Dollar General Corporation shall terminate on \_\_\_\_\_;

WHEREAS, Employee and the Company have previously entered into that certain Employment Agreement, effective \_\_\_\_\_ ("Agreement"), in which the form of this Release is incorporated by reference;

WHEREAS, Employee and Company desire to delineate their respective rights, duties and obligations attendant to such termination and desire to reach an accord and satisfaction of all claims arising from Employee's employment, and termination of employment, with appropriate releases, in accordance with the Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Company desires to compensate Employee in accordance with the Agreement for service Employee has provided and/or will provide for the Company;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the agreements of the parties set forth in this Release, and other good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, hereby covenant and agree as follows:

**1. Claims Released Under This Agreement.**

In exchange for receiving the payments and benefits described in Section 12 of the Agreement, Employee hereby voluntarily and irrevocably waives, releases, dismisses with prejudice, and withdraws all claims, complaints, suits or demands of any kind whatsoever (whether known or unknown) which Employee ever had, may have, or now has against Company and other current or former subsidiaries or affiliates of the Company and their past, present and future officers, directors, employees, agents, insurers and attorneys (collectively, the "Releasees"), arising from or relating to (directly or indirectly) Employee's employment or the termination of employment or other events that have occurred as of the date of execution of this Agreement, including but not limited to:

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a. claims for violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1981, the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, Executive Order 11246, Executive Order 11141, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Employee Retirement Income Security Act;

b. claims for violations of any other federal or state statute or regulation or local ordinance;

c. claims for lost or unpaid wages, compensation, or benefits, defamation, intentional or negligent infliction of emotional distress, assault, battery, wrongful or constructive discharge, negligent hiring, retention or supervision, fraud, misrepresentation, conversion, tortious interference, breach of contract, or breach of fiduciary duty;

d. claims to benefits under any bonus, severance, workforce reduction, early retirement, outplacement, or any other similar type plan sponsored by the Company (except for those benefits owed under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement); or

e. any other claims under state law arising in tort or contract.

**2. Claims Not Released Under This Agreement.**

In signing this Release, Employee is not releasing any claims that may arise under the terms of this Release or which may arise out of events occurring after the date Employee executes this Release.

Employee also is not releasing claims to benefits that Employee is already entitled to receive under any other plan or agreement covering Employee which shall be governed by the terms of such plan or agreement. However, Employee understands and acknowledges that nothing herein is intended to or shall be construed to require the Company to institute or continue in effect any particular plan or benefit sponsored by the Company, and the Company hereby reserves the right to amend or terminate any of its benefit programs at any time in accordance with the procedures set forth in such plans. Employee further understands and acknowledges that any continuing obligation under a Company incentive-based plan, program or arrangement or pursuant to any Company policy

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or provision regarding recoupment of compensation is not altered by this Release and nothing herein is intended to nor shall be construed otherwise.

Nothing in this Release shall prohibit Employee from engaging in activities required or protected under applicable law or from communicating, either voluntarily or otherwise, with any governmental agency concerning any potential violation of the law.

3. **No Assignment of Claim.** Employee represents that Employee has not assigned or transferred, or purported to assign or transfer, any claims or any portion thereof or interest therein to any party prior to the date of this Release.

4. **Compensation.** In accordance with the Agreement, the Company agrees to pay Employee or, if Employee becomes eligible for payments and benefits under Section 12 but dies before receipt thereof, Employee's spouse or estate, as the case may be, the amounts provided in Section 12 of the Agreement.

5. **Publicity; No Disparaging Statement.** Except as otherwise provided in Section 15 of the Agreement, Section 2 of this Release, and as privileged by law, Employee and the Company covenant and agree that they shall not engage in any communications with persons outside the Company which shall disparage one another or interfere with their existing or prospective business relationships.

6. **No Admission Of Liability.** This Release shall not in any way be construed as an admission by the Company or Employee of any improper actions or liability whatsoever as to one another, and each specifically disclaims any liability to or improper actions against the other or any other person.

7. **Voluntary Execution.** Employee warrants, represents and agrees that Employee has been encouraged in writing to seek advice regarding this Release from an attorney and tax advisor prior to signing it; that this Release represents written notice to do so; that Employee has been given the opportunity and sufficient time to seek such advice; and that Employee fully understands the meaning and contents of this Release. Employee further represents and warrants that Employee was not coerced, threatened or otherwise forced to sign this Release, and that Employee's signature appearing hereinafter is voluntary and genuine. EMPLOYEE UNDERSTANDS THAT EMPLOYEE MAY TAKE UP TO TWENTY-ONE (21) DAYS (OR, IN THE CASE OF AN EXIT INCENTIVE OR OTHER EMPLOYMENT TERMINATION PROGRAM OFFERED TO A GROUP OR CLASS OF EMPLOYEES, UP TO FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS) TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO ENTER INTO THIS RELEASE.

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8. Ability to Revoke Agreement. EMPLOYEE UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS RELEASE MAY BE REVOKED BY EMPLOYEE BY NOTIFYING THE COMPANY IN WRITING OF SUCH REVOCATION WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS OF EMPLOYEE'S EXECUTION OF THIS RELEASE AND THAT THIS RELEASE IS NOT EFFECTIVE UNTIL THE EXPIRATION OF SUCH SEVEN (7) DAY PERIOD. EMPLOYEE UNDERSTANDS THAT UPON THE EXPIRATION OF SUCH SEVEN (7) DAY PERIOD THIS RELEASE WILL BE BINDING UPON EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYEE'S HEIRS, ADMINISTRATORS, REPRESENTATIVES, EXECUTORS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS AND WILL BE IRREVOCABLE.

Acknowledged and Agreed To:

“COMPANY”

DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE, I AM GIVING UP RIGHTS I MAY HAVE. I UNDERSTAND THAT I DO NOT HAVE TO SIGN THIS RELEASE.

“EMPLOYEE”

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESSED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2015  
The Board of Directors and Shareholders  
Dollar General Corporation

We are aware of the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements (Nos. 333-151047, 333-151049, 333-151655, and 333-163200 on Form S-8 and 333-187493 on Form S-3) of Dollar General Corporation of our report dated December 3, 2015 relating to the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of Dollar General Corporation that are included in its Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 30, 2015.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP  
Nashville, Tennessee

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## CERTIFICATIONS

I, Todd J. Vasos, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Dollar General Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: December 3, 2015

/s/ Todd J. Vasos

Todd J. Vasos  
Chief Executive Officer

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I, John W. Garratt, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Dollar General Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: December 3, 2015

/s/ John W. Garratt  
John W. Garratt  
Chief Financial Officer

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**CERTIFICATIONS**  
**Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350**

Each of the undersigned hereby certifies that to his knowledge the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended October 30, 2015 of Dollar General Corporation (the "Company") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in such report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Todd J. Vasos

Name: Todd J. Vasos  
Title: Chief Executive Officer  
Date: December 3, 2015

/s/ John W. Garratt

Name: John W. Garratt  
Title: Chief Financial Officer  
Date: December 3, 2015

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