

BOOKS A MILLION INC  
Form PREM14A  
August 21, 2015  
Table of Contents

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

**SCHEDULE 14A**  
**PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(a) OF THE**  
**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Material
- Soliciting Material under Rule 14a-12

**BOOKS-A-MILLION, INC.**

**(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)**

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies: Common Stock

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies: 15,409,112 outstanding shares of Common Stock

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

In accordance with Exchange Act Rule 0-11(c), the filing fee of \$5,819.26 was determined by multiplying .0001162 by the aggregate Merger Consideration of \$50,079,614. The aggregate Merger Consideration was calculated based on the sum of 15,409,112 outstanding shares of Common Stock as of August 1, 2015 to be acquired pursuant to the Merger multiplied by the \$3.25 per share Merger Consideration.

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction: \$50,079,614

(5) Total fee paid: \$5,819.26

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

[ ] [ ], 2015

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of the stockholders of Books-A-Million, Inc. (the Company), which we will hold at [ ] a.m., Central Time, on [ ] [ ], 2015, at our corporate office annex located at 121 West Park Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35211. Formal notice of the special meeting, a proxy statement, and a proxy card accompany this letter.

At the special meeting, holders of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ( Common Stock ), will be asked to consider and vote upon a proposal to adopt and approve an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of July 13, 2015 (as it may be amended from time to time, the Merger Agreement ), by and among the Company, Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation ( Parent ), and Family Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent ( Sub ). Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, Sub will merge with and into the Company and the Company will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent (the Merger ). If the Merger is completed, then each share of our Common Stock will be converted into the right to receive \$3.25 in cash (other than certain shares as set forth in the Merger Agreement).

**The proposed Merger is a going private transaction under Securities and Exchange Commission rules. Following the Merger, all of the Common Stock of Parent will be owned by Clyde B. Anderson, the Executive Chairman of the Company's Board, Terrence C. Anderson, who is a director of the Company, certain other members of the Anderson family (the Anderson Family ) and certain members of the Company's management who have agreed to contribute shares of Common Stock to Parent (which are referred to with the Anderson Family as the Purchaser Group ).**

The board of directors of the Company (the Board ) formed a committee (the Special Committee ) consisting solely of independent and disinterested directors of the Company to consider if the transaction was the best option for stockholders other than the Anderson Family and the Company's management and, if so, to evaluate and negotiate the terms of a transaction (as described more fully in the enclosed proxy statement). The Board (other than Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson, who recused themselves from the vote of the Board), based in part on the unanimous recommendation of the Special Committee, has (a) determined unanimously that the Merger Agreement and the Merger are advisable, and in the best interests of, the Company's stockholders (other than the members of the Purchaser Group or any person that the Company has determined to be a Section 16 Officer of the Company pursuant to Rule 16a-1(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act )), (b) approved unanimously the Merger Agreement and the Merger, and (c) resolved unanimously to recommend that the Company's stockholders vote FOR the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement. ***The Board (with Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson recusing themselves) recommends unanimously that you vote FOR the adoption of the Merger Agreement.***

Pursuant to rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, you also will be asked to vote at the special meeting on a non-binding, advisory proposal to approve compensation that will or may become payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger, as described in the proxy statement. ***The Board (without Clyde B. Anderson's or Terrence C. Anderson's participation) also recommends unanimously that the stockholders of the Company vote FOR the non-binding, advisory proposal to approve compensation that will or may become payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger.***

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The enclosed proxy statement describes the Merger Agreement, the Merger and related agreements and provides specific information concerning the special meeting. In addition, you may obtain information about us from documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We urge you to read the entire proxy

**Table of Contents**

statement, including the annexes, carefully, as it sets forth the details of the Merger Agreement and other important information related to the Merger.

**Your vote is very important, regardless of the number of shares of Common Stock you own. The affirmative vote of the holders of the majority of the aggregate voting power of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock is required to approve and adopt the Merger Agreement. In addition, the Merger Agreement makes it a non-waivable condition to the parties' obligations to consummate the Merger that holders of at least a majority of our issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock, excluding all shares beneficially owned by Parent, Sub, the Purchaser Group or any officer of the Company (determined in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act), vote in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement. If you fail to vote on the Merger Agreement, the effect will be the same as a vote against the adoption of the Merger Agreement.**

If you own shares of record, you will find enclosed a proxy and voting instruction card or cards and an envelope in which to return the card(s). Whether or not you plan to attend this meeting, please sign, date and return your enclosed proxy and voting instruction card(s), or vote over the phone or Internet, as soon as possible so that your shares can be voted at the meeting in accordance with your instructions. You can revoke your proxy before the special meeting and issue a new proxy as you deem appropriate. You will find the procedures to follow if you wish to revoke your proxy on page [ ] of the enclosed proxy statement.

If you hold your shares in street name through a broker, bank or other nominee, you should follow the directions provided by your broker, bank or other nominee regarding how to instruct your broker, bank or other nominee to vote your shares. Without those instructions, your shares will not be voted, which will have the same effect as voting against the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement.

If you have any questions or need assistance voting your shares, please contact our proxy solicitation agent:

Okapi Partners LLC

437 Madison Avenue, 28th Floor

New York, NY 10022

Call Toll-Free: 855-305-0855

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Terrance G. Finley  
*Chief Executive Officer and President*

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities regulatory agency has approved or disapproved the Merger, passed upon the merits or fairness of the Merger or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of the disclosure in this document. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

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The accompanying proxy statement is dated [ ], 2015 and, together with the enclosed form of proxy, is first being mailed to Stockholders on [ ], 2015.

Table of Contents

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of stockholders of Books-A-Million, Inc. will be held at [ ] a.m., Central Time, on [ ] [ ], 2015, at our corporate office annex located at 121 West Park Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35211 for the following purposes:

(1) to consider and vote on a proposal to adopt an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of July 13, 2015 (as it may be amended from time to time, which we refer to as the Merger Agreement ), by and among Books-A-Million, Inc. (the Company ), Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation ( Parent ), and Family Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent ( Sub );

(2) to consider and vote on the proposal to approve, by non-binding, advisory vote, compensation that will or may become payable to the Company s named executive officers in connection with the Merger;

(3) to consider and vote on any proposal to adjourn the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval (as defined below) or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval (as defined below); and

(4) to act upon other business that may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The holders of record of our Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the Common Stock ), at the close of business on [ ] [ ], 2015, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the special meeting and at any adjournment thereof. All stockholders of record are invited to attend the special meeting in person.

**The Board unanimously recommends that the stockholders of the Company vote FOR the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement, FOR the advisory (non-binding) proposal to approve specified compensation that will or may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger and FOR the proposal to adjourn the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate, as determined in good faith by the Company, to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval.**

Your vote is important, regardless of the number of shares of Common Stock you own. The Merger cannot be completed unless holders of the majority of the aggregate voting power of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock approve and adopt the Merger Agreement (which we refer to as the Company stockholder approval ). In addition, the Merger Agreement makes it a non-waivable condition to the parties obligations to consummate the Merger that the holders of a majority of outstanding shares of Common Stock not beneficially owned by Parent, Sub or any party entering into a Rollover Agreement with Parent (which we refer to as the Purchaser Group Members ) and any officer of the Company determined in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act (who we refer to as Section 16 officers ), vote in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement (which we refer to as the majority of the minority stockholder approval condition). **If you fail to vote on the Merger Agreement, the effect will be the same as a vote against the adoption of the Merger Agreement.**

Each of the non-binding, advisory proposals to approve specified compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger and the proposal to adjourn the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit



additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval requires the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the subject matter.

**Even if you plan to attend the special meeting in person, we request that you complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy and thus ensure that your shares will be represented at the special meeting if**

**Table of Contents**

**you are unable to attend.** You also may submit your proxy by using a toll-free telephone number or the Internet. We have provided instructions in the enclosed proxy statement and on the proxy and voting instruction card for using these convenient services.

If you sign, date and return your proxy and voting instruction card(s) without indicating how you wish to vote, your proxy will be voted in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement, in favor of the non-binding, advisory proposal to approve specified compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger, and in favor of the proposal to adjourn the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or the majority of the minority stockholder approval. If you fail to attend the special meeting or submit your proxy, the effect will be that your shares will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the special meeting and will have the same effect as a vote against the adoption of the Merger Agreement. However, assuming a quorum is present, failure to attend the special meeting or submit your proxy will not affect the advisory vote to approve specified compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger or the vote regarding the adjournment of the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or the majority of the minority stockholder approval.

You may revoke your proxy at any time before the vote at the special meeting by following the procedures outlined in the enclosed proxy statement. If you are a stockholder of record, attend the special meeting and wish to vote in person, you may revoke your proxy and vote in person.

The Merger is described in the accompanying proxy statement, which we urge you to read carefully. A copy of the Merger Agreement is included as Appendix A to the accompanying proxy statement.

By order of the Board

Catherine L. Hogewood

Secretary

Dated: [ ] [ ], 2015

Table of ContentsTABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<u>SUMMARY TERM SHEET</u>	1
<u>Rollover Agreements</u>	8
<u>Litigation</u>	9
<u>QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE SPECIAL MEETING AND THE MERGER</u>	11
<u>SPECIAL FACTORS</u>	15
<u>Background of the Merger</u>	15
<u>Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Special Committee; Recommendation of the Board;</u>	
<u>Fairness of the Merger</u>	24
<u>Recommendation of the Board</u>	28
<u>Opinion of Financial Advisor to the Special Committee</u>	29
<u>Purchaser Group Members Purposes and Reasons for the Merger</u>	39
<u>Position of the Purchaser Group as to Fairness of the Merger</u>	39
<u>Plans for the Company After the Merger</u>	41
<u>Certain Effects of the Merger</u>	42
<u>Projected Financial Information</u>	44
<u>Financing</u>	46
<u>Interests of the Company's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger</u>	47
<u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger</u>	48
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	50
<u>Anticipated Accounting Treatment of the Merger</u>	50
<u>Litigation</u>	51
<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION</u>	52
<u>THE PARTIES TO THE MERGER</u>	53
<u>Books-A-Million, Inc.</u>	53
<u>Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc.</u>	53
<u>Family Merger Sub, Inc.</u>	53
<u>THE SPECIAL MEETING</u>	54
<u>Date, Time and Place</u>	54
<u>Record Date and Quorum</u>	54
<u>Required Vote</u>	54
<u>Voting; Proxies; Revocation</u>	55
<u>Adjournments and Postponements</u>	57
<u>Solicitation of Proxies</u>	57
<u>THE MERGER AGREEMENT</u>	58
<u>Explanatory Note Regarding the Merger Agreement</u>	58
<u>Structure of the Merger</u>	58
<u>When the Merger Becomes Effective</u>	58
<u>Effect of the Merger on the Common Shares of the Company and Sub</u>	59

<u>Treatment of Company Equity Awards</u>	59
<u>Payment for the Common Stock in the Merger</u>	59
<u>Representations and Warranties</u>	59
<u>Conduct of Business Pending the Merger</u>	62
<u>Other Covenants and Agreements</u>	63
<u>Conditions to the Merger</u>	68

**Table of Contents**

	<b>Page</b>
<u>Fees and Expenses</u>	69
<u>Amendments and Modification</u>	70
<u>Specific Performance</u>	70
<u>Governing Law</u>	70
<u>AGREEMENTS INVOLVING COMMON STOCK</u>	71
<u>Voting Agreement</u>	71
<u>Rollover Agreements</u>	71
<u>Stockholder Agreement</u>	71
<u>Group Administration Agreement</u>	72
<u>PROVISIONS FOR UNAFFILIATED STOCKHOLDERS</u>	73
<u>IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING BOOKS-A-MILLION</u>	73
<u>Company Background</u>	73
<u>Directors and Executive Officers</u>	73
<u>Prior Public Offerings</u>	75
<u>Historical Selected Financial Information</u>	75
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	76
<u>Book Value Per Share</u>	77
<u>Market Price of the Common Stock</u>	77
<u>Security Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners</u>	77
<u>Transactions in Common Stock</u>	78
<u>RIGHTS OF APPRAISAL</u>	81
<u>DELISTING AND DEREGISTRATION OF COMMON STOCK</u>	85
<u>ADVISORY VOTE ON MERGER RELATED COMPENSATION</u>	85
<u>SUBMISSION OF STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS</u>	87
<u>IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE PURCHASER GROUP MEMBERS, PARENT AND SUB</u>	88
<u>ENTITY PURCHASER GROUP MEMBERS</u>	89
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>	93
<u>ANNEX A</u>	A-1
<u>ANNEX B</u>	B-1
<u>ANNEX C</u>	C-1

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**Table of Contents**

**SUMMARY TERM SHEET**

This summary highlights selected information from this proxy statement related to the merger of Family Merger Sub, Inc. with and into Books-A-Million, Inc. (which we refer to as the Merger) and may not contain all of the information that is important to you. To understand the Merger more fully and for a more complete description of the legal terms of the Merger, you should carefully read this entire proxy statement, the annexes to this proxy statement and the documents that we refer to in this proxy statement. You may obtain the information incorporated by reference in this proxy statement without charge by following the instructions under the caption Where You Can Find More Information. The Merger Agreement is attached as Annex A to this proxy statement. We encourage you to read the Merger Agreement, which is the legal document that governs the Merger, carefully and in its entirety.

Except as otherwise specifically noted in this proxy statement, Books-A-Million, the Company, we, our, us and similar words refer to Books-A-Million, Inc., including, in certain cases, our subsidiaries. Throughout this proxy statement, we refer to Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc. as Parent and Family Merger Sub, Inc. as Sub and throughout this proxy statement we refer to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated July 13, 2015, by and among the Company, Parent and Sub, as it may be amended, supplemented or modified from time to time, as the Merger Agreement.

In addition, throughout this proxy statement we refer to Clyde B. Anderson, the Executive Chairman of the Company's Board, Terrence C. Anderson, who is a director of the Company, and certain other members of the Anderson family as the Anderson Family, and, together with Parent, Sub and any party entering into a Rollover Agreement with Parent as the Purchaser Group Members and any officer of the Company determined in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act as the Section 16 officers.

**The Parties to the Merger Agreement**

*Books-A-Million*

Books-A-Million, Inc. is one of the nation's leading book retailers and sells on the Internet at [www.booksamillion.com](http://www.booksamillion.com). The Company presently operates 256 stores in 32 states. The Company operates large superstores under the names Books-A-Million (BAM!), Books & Co. and 2nd & Charles and traditional bookstores operating under the names Bookland and Books-A-Million. Also included in the Company's retail operations is the operation of Yogurt Mountain Holding, LLC, a retailer and franchisor of self-serve frozen yogurt stores with 42 locations. The Company also develops and manages commercial real estate investments through its subsidiary, Preferred Growth Properties. The Company owns a 94.9% ownership interest in Preferred Growth Properties. The remaining 5.1% ownership interest in Preferred Growth Properties is owned by Terrance G. Finley (Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company), R. Todd Noden (Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company), James F. Turner (Executive Vice President/Real Estate and Business Development) and a non-executive employee of the Company. The Common Stock of Books-A-Million, Inc. is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol BMM.

Additional information about Books-A-Million, Inc. is contained in its public filings, which are incorporated by reference herein. See *Where You Can Find Additional Information* on page [ ].

*Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc.*

Parent is a newly formed Delaware corporation organized in connection with the Merger. Parent was formed by the Anderson Family. As of the date hereof, Clyde B. Anderson is the sole director and officer of Parent. Parent has not engaged in any business other than in connection with the Merger and other related transactions.



## **Table of Contents**

### *Family Merger Sub, Inc.*

Sub is a newly formed Delaware corporation. Sub is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent and was formed solely for the purpose of engaging in the Merger and other related transactions. As of the date hereof, Clyde B. Anderson is the sole director and sole officer of Sub. Sub has not engaged in any business other than in connection with the Merger and other related transactions.

### **The Merger Proposal**

You are being asked to consider and vote upon a proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement which provides that at the closing of the Merger, Sub will be merged with and into the Company, and each outstanding share of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the *Common Stock* ), other than shares owned by the Company, Parent and Sub, including the Rollover Shares (as defined in *Special Factors-Certain Effects of the Merger* ), and by holders of Common Stock who have properly demanded and not withdrawn appraisal rights under Delaware law (which shares of Common Stock we refer to as *dissenting shares* ), will be converted into the right to receive \$3.25 in cash per share, without interest (the *Merger Consideration* ).

If the Merger is consummated, the Company will become a privately held company, wholly-owned by Parent. All of the Common Stock of Parent will be owned by the Purchaser Group Members.

### **Conditions to the Merger**

The obligations of the Company, Parent and Sub to effect the Merger are subject to the fulfillment or waiver, at or before the effective time, of the following conditions:

that the non-waivable majority of the minority stockholder approval has been obtained;

that the Company stockholder approval has been obtained;

that no governmental entity in the United States having jurisdiction over the Company, Parent or Sub shall have issued an order, decree or ruling or taken any other action enjoining or otherwise prohibiting consummation of the Merger substantially on the terms contemplated by the Merger Agreement that continues to be in effect at the closing of the Merger;

prior to the mailing of this proxy statement, the Board shall have received a favorable solvency opinion from an independent appraisal or valuation firm, and at the closing of the Merger, the Board shall have received a bring-down as to the continued effectiveness of such solvency opinion from such valuation firm; and

that the Company shall have received the funding from the Company's existing credit facility, in an amount sufficient to fund the aggregate Merger Consideration and the other payments to be made by the Company at the closing in connection with the Merger and related transactions (the *Contemplated Transactions* ).



The obligation of the Company to effect the Merger is subject to the fulfillment or waiver, at or before the effective time, of the following conditions:

the continued accuracy of the representations and warranties of Parent and Sub in the Merger Agreement, except where the failure of such representations and warranties to be true and accurate would not have a material adverse effect on the ability of Parent to consummate the Contemplated Transactions; and

that each of Parent and Sub has in all material respects performed all obligations and complied with all covenants required by the Merger Agreement to be performed or complied with by it at or prior to the closing of the Merger.

## **Table of Contents**

The obligation of Parent and Sub to effect the Merger is subject to the fulfillment or waiver, at or before the effective time, of the following conditions:

the continued accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company in the Merger Agreement, except where the failure of such representations and warranties to be true and accurate would not have a material adverse effect on the Company, subject to certain exceptions;

that the Company has in all material respects performed all obligations and complied with all covenants required by the Merger Agreement to be performed or complied with by it at or prior to the effective time;

that the total number of dissenting shares does not exceed 10% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock immediately prior to the filing of the certificate of merger; and

that after giving effect to the consummation of the Merger, no default or event of default under the Company's existing credit agreement shall be continuing.

### **When the Merger Becomes Effective**

We anticipate completing the Merger in the fourth quarter of 2015, subject to adoption of the Merger Agreement by the Company's stockholders as specified herein, and the satisfaction of the other closing conditions.

### **Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Special Committee; Recommendation of the Board; Fairness of the Merger**

Based in part on the unanimous recommendation of the members of the Special Committee of independent directors that was established to evaluate and negotiate a potential transaction (which we refer to as the Special Committee), the Board (with Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson recusing themselves) recommends unanimously that the stockholders of the Company vote FOR the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement. For a description of the reasons considered by the Special Committee and the Board for their recommendations, see *Special Factors Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Special Committee; Recommendation of the Board; Fairness of the Merger* beginning on page [ ].

The purpose of the Merger for the Company is to enable its stockholders to realize the value of their investment in the Company through their receipt of the \$3.25 per share Merger Consideration (the Merger Consideration) in cash, representing a premium of 93% over the trading price for Common Stock on January 29, 2015, the date on which the Anderson Family initially proposed to acquire the Company, and a premium of 23% over the closing trading price on July 13, 2015, the last trading day before the public announcement of the signing of the Merger Agreement.

### **Opinion of Financial Advisor to the Special Committee**

On July 13, 2015, Houlihan Lokey Capital, Inc. (which we refer to as Houlihan Lokey), the Special Committee's financial advisor, orally rendered its opinion to the Special Committee (which was confirmed by delivery of Houlihan Lokey's written opinion, dated July 13, 2015, to the Special Committee) as to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of such date, of the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares

pursuant to the Merger Agreement. For purposes of the opinion, (i) Anderson Group refers to Clyde B. Anderson and certain family members and related parties, (ii) purchaser group refers collectively to Parent, Sub, each of the owners of Parent, holders entering into rollover or management rollover agreements in connection with the merger and each of their respective affiliates and (iii) Company unaffiliated shares refers to shares of Company common stock not held or beneficially owned by (A) the Company or (B) the purchaser group.

## **Table of Contents**

**Houlihan Lokey's opinion was directed to the Special Committee (in its capacity as such), addressed only the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of July 13, 2015, of the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement and did not address any other aspect or implication of the Merger or any other agreement, arrangement or understanding. The summary of Houlihan Lokey's opinion in this proxy statement is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of its written opinion, which is attached as Annex B to this proxy statement and describes the procedures followed, assumptions made, qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken and other matters considered by Houlihan Lokey in connection with the preparation of its opinion. However, neither Houlihan Lokey's opinion nor the summary of its opinion and the related analyses set forth in this proxy statement are intended to be, and do not constitute, advice or a recommendation to the Special Committee, the Board, any security holder or any other party as to how to act or vote with respect to any matter relating to the Merger or otherwise. See *Special Factors – Opinion of Financial Advisor to the Special Committee.***

## **Purposes and Reasons of Parent and Sub and the Purchaser Group Members for the Merger**

The Purchaser Group Members believe that as a private company the Company will have greater operating flexibility, and management will be able to more effectively concentrate on long-term growth and reduce its focus on the quarter-to-quarter performance often emphasized by the public markets. Moreover, the Company will not be subject to certain obligations and constraints, and related costs, associated with having publicly traded equity securities.

## **Certain Effects of the Merger**

If the conditions to the closing of the Merger are either satisfied or waived, Sub will be merged with and into the Company, the separate corporate existence of Sub will cease and the Company will continue its corporate existence under Delaware law as the surviving corporation in the Merger, with all of its rights, privileges, immunities, powers and franchises continuing unaffected by the Merger. Upon completion of the Merger, Common Stock, other than shares owned by the Company, Parent (including the Rollover Shares), Sub or holders of dissenting shares, will be converted into the right to receive \$3.25 per share, without interest. Following the completion of the Merger, the Common Stock will no longer be publicly traded, and stockholders (other than the stockholders of Parent through their interest in Parent) will cease to have any ownership interest in the Company.

## **Treatment of Company Equity Awards**

### *Restricted Common Stock*

Each share of Common Stock subject to restricted stock awards granted under the Company's 2005 Incentive Award Plan, as amended on May 30, 2014 (the "Company Equity Plan", which shares are also referred to as "restricted shares") and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time will vest and become free of restrictions and be eligible to receive the Merger Consideration, without interest, in the same manner as other shares of Common Stock, except that the Merger Consideration paid to such holders will be subject to any required withholding taxes, and will be paid by the surviving corporation.

## **Interests of the Company's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger**

In considering the recommendations of the Special Committee and of the Board with respect to the Merger Agreement, you should be aware that, aside from their interests as stockholders of the Company, the Company's directors and executive officers have interests in the Merger that are different from, or in addition to, those of other stockholders of the Company generally. In particular, the officers and directors who are Purchaser Group Members,

together with the other Anderson Family members, will control the Company following the Merger.

**Table of Contents**

Interests of executive officers and directors other than the Anderson Family that may be different from or in addition to the interests of the Company's stockholders include:

The vesting of their restricted Common Stock will be accelerated pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, and (other than for shares subject to rollover agreements) they may receive cash payments in exchange for their restricted Common Stock pursuant to the Merger Agreement.

Certain executive officers may receive benefits under employment plans or employment agreements that could result from the Merger.

The Company's executive officers as of the effective time of the Merger will become the initial executive officers of the surviving corporation.

The Company's directors and executive officers are entitled to continued indemnification and insurance coverage under the Merger Agreement, and the Company's directors and certain executive officers are entitled to continued indemnification and insurance coverage under indemnification agreements.

These interests are discussed in more detail in the section entitled *Special Factors - Interests of the Company's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger* beginning on page [ ]. The Special Committee and the Board were aware of the different or additional interests described herein and considered those interests along with other matters in recommending and/or approving, as applicable, the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Merger.

**No Solicitation**

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, except as described below, the Company and its subsidiaries have agreed not to, and to instruct its or their respective officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives, not to, directly or indirectly:

solicit or initiate, or knowingly induce, facilitate or encourage, the making, submission or announcement of any Acquisition Proposal (as defined in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement - Other Covenants and Agreements - No Solicitation* beginning on page [ ]), or take any action that would reasonably be expected to lead to an Acquisition Proposal;

furnish any nonpublic information regarding the Company or any of its subsidiaries to any person in connection with or in response to an Acquisition Proposal;

engage in discussions or negotiations with any person with respect to any Acquisition Proposal;

approve, endorse or recommend any Acquisition Proposal;

enter into any letter of intent or contract contemplating or otherwise relating to any Acquisition Transaction (as defined in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements No Solicitation* ) (other than an Acceptable Confidentiality Agreement as defined in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements No Solicitation*); or

take any action that would render any of the restrictions of any of the Takeover Statutes (as defined in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements No Solicitation*) inapplicable to any person (other than Parent, Sub or any Purchaser Group Member).

If, prior to the receipt of the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority stockholder approval, (i) the Board, or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee), or the Company, receives an unsolicited Acquisition Proposal that the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith is or could reasonably be expected to result in a Superior Proposal, as defined in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements No Solicitation* beginning on page [ ], (ii) the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal did not result from the Company's breach of its obligations under the non-solicitation provisions of the Merger Agreement

**Table of Contents**

(other than any such breach caused by Parent, Sub, Clyde B. Anderson or Terrence C. Anderson) and (iii) after consultation with its counsel, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith that failure to take action concerning the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal would be inconsistent with the directors' fiduciary duties under applicable law, then the Company may:

furnish nonpublic information to the person making the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal and its representatives; and

participate in discussions or negotiations with that person and its representatives regarding the alternative proposal;

provided, in each case, that such person and its representatives enter into a customary confidentiality agreement containing a standstill and the Company gives notice to Parent setting forth the identity of such person and the Company's intention to furnish such nonpublic information to, or enter into discussions with, such person.

The Company must concurrently provide to Parent any nonpublic information concerning the Company or any of its subsidiaries that is provided to the person making the alternative proposal or its representatives that was not previously provided or made available to Parent.

The Company must promptly (and in any event within one business day) advise Parent orally and in writing of any such unsolicited Acquisition Proposal, including the identity of the party making such proposal or inquiry and the terms thereof, and must keep Parent promptly informed with respect to the status of such proposal or any modification or proposed modifications thereto.

Except as described below, neither the Company, the Board nor any committee thereof is permitted to:

withhold, withdraw, amend, qualify or modify, in a manner adverse to Parent or Sub, or propose publicly to withhold, withdraw, amend, qualify or modify, in a manner adverse to Parent or Sub, the Company Recommendation (as defined in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements No Solicitation*);

adopt, approve or recommend, or publicly propose to adopt, approve or recommend or publicly take a neutral position or no position with respect to an Acquisition Proposal;

fail to include the Company Recommendation in the Company's proxy statement or fail to recommend against any Acquisition Proposal subject to Regulation 14D of the Exchange Act; or

following receipt of an Acquisition Proposal, fail to reaffirm its approval or recommendation of the Merger Agreement and the Merger within five business days after receipt of any reasonable request by Parent to do



so.

At any time prior to obtaining the required votes of the Company stockholders, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) may:

make a change-in-recommendation in response to a material event that was not known to the Special Committee on the date of the Merger Agreement (or if known, the consequences of which were not reasonably foreseeable to the Special Committee as of such date), which material event (or the consequences thereof) becomes known to the Special Committee before receipt of the later of the Company stockholder approval or the majority of the minority approval (such event, fact, circumstance, development, occurrence or state of facts, as more fully described in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements No Solicitation* beginning on page [ ], an Intervening Event ), if the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith, after consultation with its counsel, that the failure to do so would be inconsistent with the directors' fiduciary duties under applicable law; or

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**Table of Contents**

make a change-in-recommendation in response to a Superior Proposal as described in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements No Solicitation* beginning on page [ ], if the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith, after consultation with its counsel, that the failure to do so would be inconsistent with the directors' fiduciary duties under applicable law.

In either of the two instances described directly above, the Board or Special Committee may only make a change in recommendation if the Board or Special Committee (i) provides Parent with a notice of its intent to take such action, specifying the identity of the person making the Superior Proposal, the material terms of the Superior Proposal and containing a copy of the material documents or agreements providing for the Superior Proposal, or in the event of a change in recommendation as a result of an Intervening Event, containing a reasonably detailed description of the Intervening Event, (ii) for a period of five days, negotiates with Parent and any representative of Parent (if Parent desires to negotiate) to permit Parent to propose amendments to the Merger Agreement, (iii) on the date that is no later than two business days immediately following such five-day negotiation period, and taking into account any further Parent proposals regarding the Merger Agreement, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines that the Superior Proposal would continue to constitute a Superior Proposal, or, in the case of an Intervening Event, the failure to make a change in recommendation with respect to such Intervening Event would continue to be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties under applicable law and (iv) in case of a Superior Proposal, such Superior Proposal did not result from a breach of the non-solicitation provisions of the Merger Agreement (other than any such breach caused by Parent, Sub, Clyde B. Anderson or Terrence C. Anderson).

**Termination**

The Company and Parent may terminate the Merger Agreement by mutual written consent at any time before the completion of the Merger, whether prior to or after receipt of the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority stockholder approval. In addition, either the Company or Parent may terminate the Merger Agreement if:

any governmental entity shall have issued an order or taken any other action permanently restraining, enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the consummation of the Merger, and such order is final and nonappealable, subject to certain exceptions;

prior to the effective time, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) shall have effected a change-in-recommendation or publicly announced its intention to do so (provided that the right to terminate the Merger Agreement in this instance shall not be available to the Company unless the Company shall have paid, or concurrently reimburses Parent for certain expenses related to the Merger);

the Merger has not been completed by 11:59 p.m., Central Time, on November 30, 2015 (or, under certain circumstances, December 15, 2015) (the Termination Date ), provided that this termination right is not available to a party whose failure to perform any of its obligations under the Merger Agreement has been the primary cause of the failure of the Merger to be consummated by the Termination Date; or

the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority stockholder approval were not obtained at the special meeting of the Company's stockholders (after taking into account any adjournment,

postponement or recess of such special meeting), subject to certain exceptions.

The Company may terminate the Merger Agreement:

if there is a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of Parent or Sub, such that the conditions to each party's obligation to effect the Merger or the conditions to the obligation of the Company to effect the Merger would be incapable of fulfillment and the breach or failure is incapable of being cured, or is not cured, within thirty days following written notice of the breach.

## **Table of Contents**

Parent may terminate the Merger Agreement:

if there is a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of the Company, such that the conditions to each party's obligation to effect the Merger or the conditions to the obligation of Parent and Sub to effect the Merger would be incapable of fulfillment and the breach or failure is incapable of being cured, or is not cured, within thirty days following written notice of the breach.

## **Expense Reimbursement Provisions**

In the event that the Company or Parent terminates the Merger Agreement following a Board or Special Committee change-in-recommendation, or in the event that Parent terminates the Merger Agreement following a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of the Company, then the Company must pay the reasonable expenses of Parent incurred in connection with the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions, not to exceed \$1 million. In the event that the Company or Parent terminates the Merger Agreement because the Company stockholder approval or the majority of the minority stockholder approval is not obtained, then the Company must pay up to \$500,000 of such expenses to Parent. In the event that the Company terminates the Merger Agreement following a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of the Parent, then Parent must pay the reasonable expenses of the Company incurred in connection with the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions, not to exceed \$1 million.

## **Specific Performance**

Under certain circumstances, the Company and Parent are entitled to specific performance of the terms of the Merger Agreement, in addition to any other remedy at law or equity.

## **Financing**

The Company and Parent estimate that the total amount of funds (including rollover equity) required to complete the Merger and related transactions and pay related fees and expenses will be approximately \$50 million. Parent expects this amount to be provided by a combination of proceeds from:

the rollover of the Common Stock held by the Purchaser Group Members;

drawdown of approximately \$18 million from the Company's existing credit facility;

The financing described above (each as described in *Special Factors - Financing* ), as applicable, will provide Parent and Sub with sufficient proceeds to consummate the Merger.

## **Voting Agreement**

In connection with the Merger, the Parent and the Anderson Family have entered into a Voting Agreement with the Company, through which the members of the Anderson Family have agreed to vote (or cause to be voted) all shares of Common Stock over which they have voting power (representing approximately 57.6% of the Company's total outstanding voting power as of July 13, 2015) in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement. See *Agreements Involving Common Stock - Voting Agreement* beginning on page [ ].

### **Rollover Agreements**

In connection with the execution of the Merger Agreement, the Anderson Family entered into a Rollover Letter, dated as of the date of the Merger Agreement, with Parent (the "Rollover Letter"). Pursuant to the Rollover Letter, the Anderson Family will, immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, contribute of all their shares of Common Stock to Parent in exchange for equity interests in Parent. Subsequent to the execution of the Merger Agreement, Terrance G. Finley, R. Todd Noden and James F. Turner (collectively, the "Management

## **Table of Contents**

Rollover Stockholders ) entered into rollover agreements with Parent (each, a Management Rollover Agreement ). Pursuant to each Management Rollover Agreement, each Management Rollover Stockholder will, immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, contribute all of his shares of Common Stock (including restricted shares) to Parent in exchange for equity interests in Parent.

## **Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger**

If you are a U.S. holder, the receipt of cash in exchange for Common Stock pursuant to the Merger will generally be a taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes. You should consult your own tax advisors regarding the particular tax consequences to you of the exchange of Common Stock for cash pursuant to the Merger in light of your particular circumstances (including the application and effect of any state, local or foreign income and other tax laws).

## **The Special Meeting**

[ ], Central Time, on [ ] [ ], 2015, at our corporate office annex located at 121 West Park Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35211.

## **Record Date and Quorum**

The holders of record of the Common Stock as of the close of business on [ ] [ ], 2015 (the record date for determination of stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the special meeting) are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting.

The presence at the special meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Company entitled to vote on the record date will constitute a quorum, permitting the Company to conduct its business at the special meeting.

## **Required Votes**

### *Merger Agreement*

The affirmative vote of the holders of the majority of the aggregate voting power of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock is required to approve and adopt the Merger Agreement. In addition, the Merger Agreement contains the non-waivable majority of the minority approval condition. A failure to vote your shares of Common Stock or an abstention from voting or broker non-vote will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement.

### *Compensation Payable to Named Executive Officers in Connection with the Merger; Adjournment*

The compensation proposal and the adjournment proposal each requires the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the subject matter.

## **Litigation**

On July 28, 2015, a purported stockholder of ours filed a putative class action lawsuit in the Delaware Court of Chancery against us, our directors, Parent, and Sub. The lawsuit, which we refer to as the Vance Complaint, is captioned: Susan Vance, Individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, v. Books-A-Million, Inc., Clyde B. Anderson, Ronald G. Bruno, Ronald J. Domanico, Edward W. Wilhelm, Terrence C. Anderson, Family Acquisition

Holdings, Inc., and Family Merger Sub, Inc., Civil Action No. 111343-VCL. The Vance Complaint asserts that our board of directors breached their fiduciary duties in agreeing to the Merger, and that the

**Table of Contents**

Company, Parent, and Sub aided and abetted in the alleged breaches of fiduciary duties. The Vance Complaint seeks to enjoin the Merger and an award of money damages. Although it is not possible to predict the outcome of litigation matters with certainty, we and our directors believe that the claims raised by the purported stockholder are without merit, and we intend to defend the case vigorously.

**Rights of Appraisal**

Under Delaware law, holders of our Common Stock who do not vote in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement, who properly demand appraisal of their shares of Common Stock and who otherwise comply with all the requirements of Section 262 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, referred to as the DGCL, will be entitled to seek appraisal for, and obtain payment in cash for the judicially determined fair value of, their shares of Common Stock in lieu of receiving the Merger Consideration if the Merger is completed. This value could be more than, the same as, or less than the Merger Consideration. Any holder of Common Stock intending to exercise appraisal rights, among other things, must submit a written demand for appraisal to the Company prior to the vote on the proposal to approve and adopt the Merger Agreement, must not vote in favor of the proposal to approve and adopt the Merger Agreement and must otherwise strictly comply with all of the procedures required by Delaware law. The relevant provisions of the DGCL are included as Annex C to this proxy statement. You are encouraged to read these provisions carefully and in their entirety. If you hold your shares of Common Stock through a bank, brokerage firm or other nominee and you wish to exercise appraisal rights, you should consult with your bank, brokerage firm or other nominee to determine the appropriate procedures for the making of a demand for appraisal by such bank, brokerage firm or nominee. Moreover, due to the complexity of the procedures for exercising the right to seek appraisal, stockholders who are considering exercising such rights are encouraged to seek the advice of legal counsel. Failure to strictly comply with these provisions will result in loss of the right of appraisal.



**Table of Contents**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE SPECIAL MEETING AND THE MERGER**

The following questions and answers address briefly some questions you may have regarding the special meeting, the Merger Agreement and the Merger. These questions and answers may not address all questions that may be important to you as a stockholder of the Company. Please refer to the more detailed information contained elsewhere in this proxy statement, the annexes to this proxy statement and the documents referred to or incorporated by reference in this proxy statement.

**Q: What is the proposed transaction?**

A: The proposed transaction is the Merger of Sub with and into the Company pursuant to the Merger Agreement. If the Merger is consummated, the Company will become a privately-held company, wholly-owned by Parent.

**Q: What will I receive in the Merger?**

A: If the Merger is completed and you do not properly exercise your appraisal rights, you will be entitled to receive \$3.25 in cash, without interest, for each share of Common Stock that you own. You will not be entitled to receive shares in the surviving corporation or in Parent.

**Q: Am I entitled to exercise appraisal rights instead of receiving the Merger Consideration for my shares of Common Stock?**

A: If you comply with all the requirements of Section 262 of the DGCL (including not voting in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement), you are entitled to have the fair value (as defined pursuant to Section 262 of the DGCL) of your shares of Common Stock determined by the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware and to receive payment based on that valuation instead of receiving the Merger Consideration. The ultimate amount you would receive in an appraisal proceeding may be more than, the same as or less than the amount you would have received under the Merger Agreement. To exercise your appraisal rights, you must comply with the requirements of the DGCL. See *The Merger Appraisal Rights* and the text of the Delaware appraisal rights statute, Section 262 of the DGCL, which is reproduced in its entirety as Annex C to this proxy statement.

**Q: When and where is the special meeting?**

A: The special meeting will take place on [ ] [ ], 2015, starting at [ ] a.m. Central Time, at our corporate annex located at 121 West Park Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35211.

**Q: What matters will be voted on at the special meeting?**

A: You will be asked to vote on the following proposals:

to adopt the Merger Agreement;

to approve, by non-binding, advisory vote, compensation that will or may become payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger;

to approve the adjournment of the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval; and

to act upon other business that may properly come before the special meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

**Table of Contents**

**Q: What vote of our stockholders is required to adopt the Merger Agreement?**

A: The affirmative vote of the holders of the majority of the aggregate voting power of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock is required to approve and adopt the Merger Agreement. In addition, the Merger Agreement contains the non-waivable majority of the minority approval condition. A failure to vote your shares of Common Stock or an abstention from voting or broker non-vote will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement.

**Q: What vote of our stockholders is required to approve other matters to be presented at the special meeting?**

A: The proposal to approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, the compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger, and the proposal to approve the adjournment of the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies require the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote on the subject matter.

**Q: How does the Board recommend that I vote?**

A: Based in part on the unanimous recommendation of the Special Committee, the Board (other than Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson, who recused themselves from the vote of the Board) recommends unanimously that our stockholders vote:

**FOR** the adoption of the Merger Agreement;

**FOR** the non-binding, advisory proposal to approve specified compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger; and]

**FOR** the proposal regarding adjournment from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval.

You should read *Special Factors – Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Special Committee; Recommendation of the Board; Fairness of the Merger* beginning on page [ ] for a discussion of the factors that the Special Committee and the Board (with Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson recusing themselves) considered in deciding to recommend and/or approve, as applicable, the Merger Agreement. See also *Special Factors – Interests of the Company’s Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger* beginning on page [ ].

**Q: What effects will the Merger have on Books-A-Million?**

A: The Common Stock is currently registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ) and is quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market ( NASDAQ ) under the symbol BAMB. As a result of the Merger, the Company will cease to be a publicly traded company and will be wholly-owned by Parent.

Following the consummation of the Merger, the registration of the Common Stock and our reporting obligations with respect to the Common Stock under the Exchange Act will be terminated upon application to the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ). In addition, upon the consummation of the Merger, the Common Stock will no longer be listed on any stock exchange or quotation system, including the NASDAQ.

**Table of Contents**

**Q: What will happen if the Merger is not consummated?**

A: If the Merger is not consummated for any reason, the Company's stockholders will not receive any payment for their shares in connection with the Merger. Instead, the Company will remain a public company and the Company's Common Stock will continue to be listed and traded on the NASDAQ. Under specified circumstances, the Company may be required to pay Parent and Sub certain expenses, up to a maximum of \$1 million, if the Merger Agreement is terminated.

**Q: What will happen if stockholders do not approve the advisory proposal on executive compensation payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger?**

A: The approval of this proposal is not a condition to the completion of the Merger. The SEC rules require the Company to seek approval on a non-binding, advisory basis of certain payments that will or may be made to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger. The vote on this proposal is an advisory vote and will not be binding on the Company or Parent. If the Merger Agreement is adopted by the stockholders and the Merger is completed, the Merger-related compensation may be paid to the Company's named executive officers even if stockholders fail to approve this proposal.

**Q: What do I need to do now?**

A: We urge you to read this proxy statement carefully, including its annexes and the documents referred to as incorporated by reference in this proxy statement, as well as the related Schedule 13E-3, including the exhibits thereto, filed with the SEC, and to consider how the Merger affects you.

If you are a stockholder of record, you can ensure that your shares are voted at the special meeting by submitting your proxy via:

telephone, using the toll-free number listed on your proxy and voting instruction card;

the Internet, at the address provided on your proxy and voting instruction card; or

mail, by completing, signing, dating and mailing your proxy and voting instruction card and returning it in the envelope provided.

If you hold your shares in street name through a broker, bank or other nominee, you should follow the directions provided by it regarding how to instruct it to vote your shares. Without those instructions, your shares will not be voted, which will have the same effect as voting against adoption of the Merger Agreement.

**Q: Should I send in my stock certificates or other evidence of ownership now?**

A: No. After the Merger is completed, you will be sent a letter of transmittal with detailed written instructions for exchanging your shares of Common Stock for the per share Merger Consideration. If your shares of Common Stock are held in street name by your broker, bank or other nominee, you may receive instructions from your broker, bank or other nominee as to what action, if any, you need to take to effect the surrender of your street name shares in exchange for the per share Merger Consideration. Do not send in your certificates now.

**Q: Can I revoke my proxy and voting instructions?**

A: Yes. You can revoke your proxy and voting instructions at any time before your proxy is voted at the special meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke your proxy by notifying the Company's Secretary in writing at 402 Industrial Lane, Birmingham, Alabama 35211, by submitting

**Table of Contents**

a new proxy by telephone, the Internet or mail, in each case, dated after the date of the proxy being revoked, or by attending the special meeting and voting in person (but simply attending the special meeting will not cause your proxy to be revoked).

Please note that if you hold your shares in street name and you have instructed a broker, bank or other nominee to vote your shares, the above-described options for revoking your voting instructions do not apply, and instead you must follow the instructions received from your broker, bank or other nominee to revoke your voting instructions.

**Q: What happens if I sell my shares of Common Stock before completion of the Merger?**

A: If you transfer your shares of Common Stock, you will have transferred your right to receive the Merger Consideration in the Merger. In order to receive the Merger Consideration, you must hold your shares of Common Stock through completion of the Merger.

The record date for stockholders entitled to vote at the special meeting is earlier than the date on which the Merger will be consummated. So, if you transfer your shares of Common Stock after the record date but before the special meeting, you will have transferred your right to receive the Merger Consideration in the Merger, but retained the right to vote at the special meeting.

**Q: What is householding and how does it affect me?**

A: The SEC permits companies to send a single set of proxy materials to any household at which two or more stockholders reside, unless contrary instructions have been received, but only if the applicable company provides advance notice and follows certain procedures. In such cases, each stockholder continues to receive a separate notice of the meeting and proxy card. Certain brokerage firms may have instituted householding for beneficial owners of Common Stock held through brokerage firms. If your family has multiple accounts holding Common Stock, you may have already received a householding notification from your broker. Please contact your broker directly if you have any questions or require additional copies of this proxy statement. The broker will arrange for delivery of a separate copy of this proxy statement promptly upon your written or oral request. You may decide at any time to revoke your decision to household, and thereby receive multiple copies.

**Q: Who can help answer my other questions?**

A: If you have more questions about the Merger, or require assistance in submitting your proxy or voting your shares or need additional copies of the proxy statement or the enclosed proxy and voting instruction card(s), please contact Okapi Partners LLC, which is acting as the proxy solicitation agent and information agent in connection with the Merger.

Okapi Partners LLC

437 Madison Avenue, 28th Floor

Edgar Filing: BOOKS A MILLION INC - Form PREM14A

New York, NY 10022

Call Toll-Free: 855-305-0855

If your broker, bank or other nominee holds your shares, you can also call your broker, bank or other nominee for additional information.



**Table of Contents**

**SPECIAL FACTORS**

**Background of the Merger**

The following chronology summarizes key events and contacts that led to the signing of the Merger Agreement. It does not purport to catalogue every conversation among the Special Committee, members of our management or the Special Committee's representatives and other parties with respect to the Merger.

The members of the Anderson family are descendants of Clyde Anderson, who started the Company in 1917. Since the completion of the initial public offering of our Common Stock in 1992, members of the Anderson family have beneficially owned shares of our Common Stock representing a majority of the outstanding voting power.

As part of the continuous evaluation of our businesses and plans, our Board and senior management regularly consider a variety of potential strategic options and transactions, all in a continued effort to enhance stockholder value. Over the past four years, in view of industry and market conditions, our business and financial performance and the relatively limited trading volume of our stock, our Board focused on and considered potential strategic alternatives presented or available to us, as well as the opportunities and risks associated with our continuing to operate as an independent company.

On June 6, 2011, at the direction of our Board, our financial advisor at that time began contacting 17 potential strategic and financial buyers regarding a prospective transaction involving the Company. Of the 17 potential buyers, only one, Party X, submitted a preliminary non-binding indication of interest. Party X ultimately declined to pursue that potential transaction.

On April 28, 2012, our Board received a proposal from a group of stockholders comprised of Clyde B. Anderson, the Executive Chairman of the Company, and certain other members of the Anderson family and related entities (collectively, the Anderson Family), to pursue a potential negotiated acquisition of the shares of Company common stock not already owned by them for \$3.05 per share in cash. A special committee of our Board, appointed to negotiate the terms of the potential acquisition, rejected this proposal. Following negotiations during which that special committee requested that the Anderson Family increase their proposed price, the Anderson Family withdrew their proposal on July 17, 2012 and ceased further communications with that special committee.

During the summer of 2013, Party Y approached the Company to discuss potentially pursuing a transaction involving the Company. A confidentiality agreement was entered into between the Company and Party Y and related entities on August 22, 2013. Party Y visited the Company and its facilities on September 23, 2013. On September 24, 2013, after discussions with certain members of the Anderson Family, Party Y submitted a non-binding indication of interest to Clyde B. Anderson to acquire only the shares of the Company held by the Anderson Family for \$3.30 per share in cash, subject to various conditions, including that Company shares held by the Company's management be rolled over into equity of the acquiring entity. Party Y indicated that it might be willing to consider an acquisition of all of the Company's outstanding shares and also noted that it intended to cause the Company to sell its real estate holdings following the closing of a transaction. On October 4, 2013, the Anderson Family informed our Board of the status of discussions between the Anderson Family and Party Y concerning Party Y's interest in acquiring the Anderson Family's shares of Common Stock.

On October 22, 2013, Clyde B. Anderson informed the Board that Party Y reaffirmed its interest in potentially acquiring 100% of the shares of the Company, and the Board subsequently directed the Company's management to engage in discussions with Party Y. Certain members of the Anderson Family also participated in those discussions and the Anderson Family and the Company's General Counsel kept our Board informed on the progress of these

discussions. The Company began to question the seriousness of the discussions when Party Y did not retain an investment banking firm, and its advisors did not engage in discussions with the Company's advisors, and Party Y made no visible efforts to conduct diligence. Based on this, on December 3, 2013, Clyde B. Anderson informed the Board that discussions with Party Y would be discontinued.

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**Table of Contents**

Discussions with Party Y commenced again in early 2014 and Party Y indicated that it was now proposing \$4.15 per share for all outstanding shares of the Company, not just the shares held by the Anderson Family, but only for the retail trade and electronic commerce trade segments. The proposal indicated that the buyer did not have sufficient capital to acquire the whole business. This was reported to the Board on February 14, 2014. On March 24, 2014, Party Y (under a new fund name) submitted another non-binding indication of interest to Clyde B. Anderson to acquire 100% of the shares of the Company for \$4.15 per share in cash, subject to various conditions, including that the Anderson Family agree to provide a backstop commitment to acquire the Company's real estate holdings for at least \$19 million and to acquire certain other assets of the Company for approximately \$2.8 million. In response, Clyde B. Anderson informed Party Y that he would submit the proposal to the Board, but he was putting the Board on notice that the Anderson Family, as stockholders, would not support this proposal which relied on a backstop from the Anderson Family. On April 1, 2014, Clyde B. Anderson informed the Board of the proposal and the Anderson Family's position as stockholders.

On April 16, 2014, Party Y, the Company's General Counsel and members of the Anderson Family met in person in New York, New York. Following that meeting, on April 18, 2014, Party Y submitted a final non-binding indication of interest to acquire 100% of the Company for \$4.21 per share in cash, subject to the conditions listed above. Clyde B. Anderson presented the terms of this final non-binding indication of interest to our Board on April 28, 2014. Following discussion, our Board unanimously resolved to terminate discussions with Party Y given, among other things, Party Y's lack of substantial assets of its own, and its apparent inability to identify any source to finance the transaction in full, the Anderson Family's unwillingness to sell their shares of the Company, Party Y's reliance on the Anderson Family committing to acquire the Company's real estate holdings for at least \$19 million and the Anderson Family's unwillingness to do so.

On January 29, 2015, our Board received a proposal from the Anderson Family to pursue a potential negotiated acquisition of the shares of Company common stock not already owned by them for \$2.75 per share in cash. The proposal stated, among other things, that the Anderson Family would not move forward with the proposal unless it was approved by a special committee of independent directors and approved by a non-waivable majority-of-the-minority vote of the Company's stockholders. In addition, the proposal stated that the Anderson Family was interested only in acquiring the outstanding shares of Company common stock that they did not already own, and that they were not interested in selling their shares of Company common stock to a third party or in any merger or other strategic transaction involving any third party. The Company publicly disclosed this proposal on a Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 30, 2015. In this section, this proposal from the Anderson Family is sometimes referred to as the "proposal" and the transaction resulting from such proposal is sometimes referred to as the "potential transaction".

On January 30, 2015, our Board met telephonically to discuss the proposal. Following discussion, our Board concluded that it was in the best interests of the Company and the Company's stockholders, and specifically, the Company's stockholders not affiliated with the Anderson Family, to form a special committee of independent directors to review, evaluate and negotiate the potential transaction. Our Board then created the Special Committee consisting of Edward W. Wilhelm, Ronald Bruno and Ronald J. Domanico. The Special Committee was authorized, among other things, to review and consider the proposal and to retain its own independent legal and financial advisors at the Company's expense. The Board noted that it was designating the Special Committee so that it could begin functioning immediately, with the understanding that the members of the Special Committee would work with independent legal counsel of their choosing to propose superseding resolutions setting out the Special Committee's mandate in more detail.

On January 30, 2015, the Special Committee met telephonically and discussed, among other things, its process for the selection of independent legal advisors. Following discussion, the Special Committee decided to invite two law firms

to make written proposals to present to the Special Committee.

On February 2, 2015, the Special Committee met telephonically and reviewed, among other things, written proposals from each of the law firms invited to make such proposals. The Special Committee then telephonically interviewed each of the law firms.

**Table of Contents**

On February 3, 2015, after King & Spalding confirmed that it had no actual or potential conflicts of interest with respect to the engagement, the Special Committee selected King & Spalding LLP to serve as its independent legal advisor.

On February 5, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding, met telephonically to discuss the process by which the Special Committee would evaluate the proposal, including the engagement of a financial advisor. The Special Committee also elected Mr. Wilhelm as chair of the Special Committee.

On February 6, 2015, the Special Committee (with Mr. Bruno not in attendance), along with representatives from King & Spalding, met telephonically to discuss the results of a conversation among Mr. Bruno and representatives from King & Spalding regarding the standards of independence for members of a special committee. After discussion, the Special Committee (with Mr. Bruno not in attendance) determined that, even though Mr. Bruno had been determined to be independent under the rules of NASDAQ and is a member of the audit committee of our Board, given that Mr. Bruno has social and civic relationships with the Anderson Family, it would be preferable for the independence of the Special Committee if Mr. Bruno did not serve on the Special Committee. Mr. Bruno concurred with the determination of the other members of the Special Committee and resigned from the Special Committee effective February 6, 2015.

On February 10, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding, met telephonically to discuss, among other things, the process for the selection of an independent financial advisor and interest from certain third parties (other than the Anderson Family) in potentially exploring a negotiated transaction with the Company, including the continued interest of Party Y as well as interest from Party Z, whose counsel had contacted King & Spalding following public disclosure of the proposal.

On February 16, 2015, the Special Committee formally engaged Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell LLP to serve as its independent legal counsel with respect to Delaware law issues after Morris Nichols confirmed that it had no actual or potential conflicts of interest with respect to the engagement.

Throughout the week of February 16, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding, met telephonically and interviewed three potential financial advisors. Following the conclusion of all of the interviews, the Special Committee met telephonically on February 23, 2015 to discuss the proposals from each of the three investment banks. After discussion, the Special Committee selected Houlihan Lokey as its independent financial advisor after considering, among other things, Houlihan Lokey's qualifications. The Special Committee also considered Houlihan Lokey's past transaction advisory services to an entity affiliated with the Anderson Family (other than the Company) in 2012 and 2013 for which services Houlihan Lokey and certain of its affiliates received aggregate fees of approximately \$260,000. The Special Committee determined that these past services would not present an actual or potential conflict of interest with respect to Houlihan Lokey's engagement as the Special Committee's financial advisor.

On February 24, 2015, representatives from King & Spalding, on behalf of the Special Committee, forwarded to our general counsel resolutions setting out in detail the Special Committee's mandate. Those resolutions, among other things, authorized the Special Committee to oversee, direct and conduct the evaluation and negotiation of the proposal and determine, in its sole discretion, to elect not to pursue the proposal. The resolutions also authorized the Special Committee to review, evaluate and negotiate other strategic options available to the Company. In addition, the resolutions stated that the Board would not approve the proposal without a favorable recommendation from the Special Committee. The full board subsequently adopted such resolutions by written consent.

On March 4, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss the process by which Houlihan Lokey would gather information from the Company and to discuss a preliminary timeline for evaluating the proposal.

## **Table of Contents**

During the weeks of March 9, 2015 and March 16, 2015, financial and business information was provided to the Special Committee's financial advisor, Houlihan Lokey, including certain third-party prepared real estate appraisals relating to the Company's properties (which appraisals had been prepared by an independent valuation firm during 2013 and 2014 in connection with third-party financing being provided to the Company with respect to those properties), and the Special Committee evaluated the potential strategic benefits of the potential transaction.

On March 9, 2015, the Special Committee met telephonically with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey to discuss the process and next steps with respect to evaluating the proposal. At this meeting, representatives from Houlihan Lokey also updated the Special Committee regarding a telephone conversation among representatives of Houlihan Lokey and advisors to Party Z, during which such advisors reiterated Party Z's interest in exploring a potential strategic transaction with respect to the Company.

On March 16, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically for an update from Houlihan Lokey with respect to its ongoing financial review of the Company. The Special Committee also discussed Party Y's previous interest in 2013 and 2014 in acquiring shares of the Company. As noted above, one of the conditions of Party Y's proposal in 2013 and 2014 was that the Anderson Family sell all of the shares owned by them and commit to acquire the Company's real estate holdings for at least \$19 million, both of which the Anderson Family was unwilling to do. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey also informed the Special Committee that Houlihan Lokey had received a call from Party X in which Party X expressed general interest in the Special Committee's current process.

On March 23, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to receive an update regarding the status of Houlihan Lokey's financial review of the Company. The Special Committee also discussed the strategic rationale for the potential transaction and the ability of the Anderson Family to finance the potential transaction through the use of the Company's credit facility.

On March 31, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss Houlihan Lokey's continued financial review of the proposal. The Special Committee noted that our Board had discussed projections prepared by the Company's management in the ordinary course and provided to Houlihan Lokey. The Special Committee confirmed for Houlihan Lokey that the projections provided to Houlihan Lokey remained unchanged after review and discussion by our Board and that such projections were appropriate for Houlihan Lokey's use and reliance in connection with its analyses. The Special Committee and its advisors also discussed the process by which Houlihan Lokey should contact certain third parties, other than the Anderson Family, which previously had expressed interest in exploring a transaction with the Company, including Party X, Party Y and Party Z, in order to confirm if such parties expected to submit a formal proposal with respect to a transaction with the Company.

During the weeks of March 30, 2015 and April 6, 2015, Houlihan Lokey continued to conduct a financial review of the Company and the proposal and contacted, in accordance with the directives of the Special Committee, Party X, Party Y and Party Z to confirm if such parties planned on submitting formal proposals with respect to a transaction with the Company.

On April 15, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically. Houlihan Lokey provided the Special Committee with a preliminary financial analysis of the Company, including the various methodologies used, and an overview of recent trading prices of Company common stock and the Company's historical and projected financial data. Houlihan Lokey also discussed with the Special Committee the Anderson Family's proposed financing for the Merger using the Company's existing credit facility. Houlihan Lokey and the Special Committee reviewed several alternatives to the potential transaction, including the

issuance by the Company of a special dividend pro rata to all of the Company's stockholders through additional borrowings under the Company's credit facility, a leveraged buyout and a transaction with a third party other than the Anderson Family. At this meeting, the Special Committee also



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**Table of Contents**

received an update regarding the contacts made to third parties other than the Anderson Family. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey noted that Party Y indicated that it had planned to submit an indication of interest as early as the beginning of the week of April 19, 2015, Party Z had not submitted a proposal regarding a transaction, and Party X informed Houlihan Lokey that it was unlikely to pursue a transaction with the Company. Following this discussion, the Special Committee and its advisors discussed the strategy for responding to the proposal following the receipt of indications of interest (if any) from third parties other than the Anderson Family.

On April 22, 2015, King & Spalding called Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP, legal counsel to the Anderson Family, to inform them of other potential interest in the Company.

Also on April 22, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically so that Houlihan Lokey could provide the Special Committee with an update regarding its contacts, at the Special Committee's direction, with third parties other than the Anderson Family. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey noted that while Party Z had reiterated its interest in exploring a strategic transaction with the Company, Party Z had not yet responded to repeated inquiries about whether it planned to submit a written proposal. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey also informed the Special Committee that Party Y had submitted a draft non-binding indication of interest to Houlihan Lokey (which was subsequently provided to the Special Committee) proposing to acquire 100% of the Company for \$4.21 per share in cash conditioned on, among other things, Party Y's completion of due diligence on the Company, the transaction being financed using the Company's existing credit facility and the Company agreeing to include a no-shop provision in the definitive documentation for the transaction with Party Y that would prohibit the Company from, among other things, soliciting additional offers to acquire the Company. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey also indicated that Houlihan Lokey had received an inbound call from a representative of the Anderson Family in which the representative reiterated that the Anderson Family was only interested in acquiring all of the shares of the Company not already owned by them and was not interested in selling any of their shares of the Company. The Special Committee discussed Party Y's draft non-binding indication of interest and the call from the Anderson Family's representative and directed representatives from Houlihan Lokey to provide Party Y's draft non-binding indication of interest to the Anderson Family's representative.

On April 24, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss, among other things, the potential proposal from Party Y, including the draft non-binding indication of interest, and the fact that the Special Committee and its advisors had been informed that the Anderson Family continued to remain uninterested in selling their shares of the Company to any third party. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey noted that Party Z had not submitted a written proposal regarding a strategic transaction with the Company and had not indicated that it planned to submit any such proposal. The Special Committee considered, among other things, the absence of written proposals from third parties other than the Anderson Family and Party Y, and directed its advisors to continue analyzing the proposal. The Special Committee also directed Houlihan Lokey to contact Party Y to inquire whether Party Y would consider making a minority investment in the Company.

On April 28, 2015, in accordance with the directives of the Special Committee, representatives from Houlihan Lokey contacted Party Y to inquire whether Party Y would consider a minority position in the Company (which could be effected by purchasing all of the publicly held shares of the Company through a tender offer). Party Y indicated that it was only interested in acquiring a controlling stake in the Company.

On April 29, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss a potential response to the proposal. The Special Committee and its advisors discussed various preliminary financial analyses performed by Houlihan Lokey, including the assumptions underlying those methodologies and the results of such analyses in comparison to the proposal. The Special Committee considered, among other things, how the proposal compared to the current and historical trading price of the Company common

stock and the fact that the Anderson Family repeatedly had confirmed that they were not interested in selling any shares of the Company owned by them. After weighing the advantages and

**Table of Contents**

disadvantages of various approaches to formulating a response (or no response) to the proposal, the Special Committee unanimously agreed to reject the proposal and instead make a counterproposal that the Anderson Family acquire the shares of the Company not already owned by them for \$3.36 per share in cash.

On April 30, 2015, in accordance with directives of the Special Committee, representatives from Houlihan Lokey conveyed the principal terms of the Special Committee's counterproposal to the Anderson Family's representative.

On May 4, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically. The Special Committee's advisors informed the Special Committee that they had not received any further communication from the Anderson Family or any other third parties with respect to a transaction with the Company.

Later that day, the Anderson Family's representative contacted Houlihan Lokey to convey the principal terms of the Anderson Family's response to the Special Committee's counterproposal, which were that the Anderson Family would be willing to offer \$3.10 per share in cash, but only if the Anderson Family had the right (but not the obligation) not to close the potential transaction in the event that the holders of 5% or more of the outstanding shares of Company common stock exercised appraisal rights.

On May 5, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss the Anderson Family's revised offer. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey updated the Special Committee regarding their telephone conversation with the Anderson Family's representative on May 4, 2015, including the principal terms of the Anderson Family's response. The Special Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the Anderson Family's revised proposal, the importance of transaction certainty and the potential impact of the appraisal rights condition requested by the Anderson Family. The Special Committee considered, among other things, how the revised proposal compared to the current and historical trading price of the Company common stock and the fact that the Anderson Family repeatedly had confirmed that they were not interested in selling any shares of the Company owned by them. The Special Committee also considered that any definitive documentation for the proposal would need to be approved by the holders of the majority of outstanding shares of Company common stock not beneficially owned by any Purchaser Group Members or Section 16 officers. After extensive discussion, the Special Committee unanimously agreed to reject the Anderson Family's revised proposal and instead make a counterproposal that the Anderson Family acquire the shares of the Company not already owned by them for \$3.25 per share without an appraisal rights condition. Later that day, in accordance with the directives of the Special Committee, representatives from Houlihan Lokey conveyed the principal terms of the Special Committee's counterproposal to the Anderson Family's representative.

On May 7, 2015, the Anderson Family's representative contacted Houlihan Lokey to convey the principal terms of the Anderson Family's response to the Special Committee's counterproposal, which was that the Anderson Family would be willing to offer \$3.25 per share in cash, but only if the Anderson Family had the right (but not the obligation) not to close the potential transaction in the event that the holders of 5% or more of the outstanding shares of Company common stock exercised appraisal rights. During this conversation, the Anderson Family's representative reiterated that the appraisal rights condition was very important to the Anderson Family to provide greater deal certainty and to limit the distraction and burden posed by potential appraisal rights proceedings.

Later that day, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss the response from the Anderson Family to the Special Committee's May 5, 2015 counterproposal. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey updated the Special Committee regarding their telephone conversation with the Anderson Family's representative on May 7, 2015, including the principal terms of the Anderson Family's response. After discussing the advantages and disadvantages of the counterproposal, the Special Committee

directed its advisors to contact the Anderson Family's representative to request that the

**Table of Contents**

Anderson Family remove the appraisal rights condition from their proposal. Later that day, in accordance with the directives of the Special Committee, representatives from Houlihan Lokey and King & Spalding conveyed this message to the Anderson Family's representative and Munger Tolles.

On May 11, 2015, the Anderson Family's representatives contacted Houlihan Lokey to reiterate that the appraisal rights condition was very important to the Anderson Family and state that the Anderson Family interpreted the communications from the Special Committee's advisors as rejecting the Anderson Family's proposal.

Later that day, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss the response from the Anderson Family's representative. The Special Committee and its advisors discussed the Anderson Family's proposal as a whole, the appraisal rights process in Delaware and the importance of transaction certainty. The Special Committee unanimously agreed that its advisors should negotiate for an increase to the number of shares demanding appraisal to trigger the appraisal rights condition in order to reach an agreement, with such negotiation subject to the Special Committee's final review and approval.

On May 12, 2015, representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey discussed the appraisal rights condition, in accordance with the directives of the Special Committee, with representatives from Munger Tolles and the Anderson Family. The Special Committee's advisors relayed the Special Committee's request that the threshold for the appraisal rights condition be increased from 5% to 10%. The Anderson Family's representatives indicated that they would relay that proposal to the Anderson Family.

On May 13, 2015, the Anderson Family representatives confirmed that the Anderson Family would be willing to revise the proposal such that they would offer \$3.25 per share in cash provided that the Anderson Family had the right (but not the obligation) not to close the potential transaction in the event that the holders of 10% or more of the outstanding shares of Company common stock exercised appraisal rights. Later that day, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss the revised proposal. The Special Committee considered, among other things, the revised proposal in comparison to the current and historical trading price of Company common stock and the fact that the Anderson Family repeatedly had confirmed that they were not interested in selling any shares of the Company owned by them. The Special Committee and its advisors also discussed the revised proposal and the mechanics of the appraisal rights condition. Following this discussion, the Special Committee then unanimously approved proceeding with negotiations on the basis of the revised proposal and directed King & Spalding to contact Munger Tolles to discuss process and next steps.

On May 14, 2015, King & Spalding discussed the process for preparing a draft merger agreement with Munger Tolles. Munger Tolles and King & Spalding agreed that Munger Tolles would prepare and send to King & Spalding an initial draft merger agreement, as well as a draft of a rollover letter whereby the members of the Anderson Family would roll over all of their shares of Common Stock into a special purpose entity formed by the Anderson Family.

On May 21, 2015, Munger Tolles delivered an initial draft of the Merger Agreement to King & Spalding, which included, among other things, a no-shop covenant and a termination fee payable by the Company to the Anderson Family if the Merger Agreement were terminated under certain circumstances. Continuing into the week of May 25, 2015, representatives of King & Spalding and Morris Nichols revised the draft merger agreement.

On May 28, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey provided the Special Committee with a general update regarding its contact with third parties other than the Anderson Family and noted that Party Y indicated that it remained interested in exploring a strategic transaction with the Company and that Houlihan Lokey had not received any further communication from Party Z. Representatives from King & Spalding then reviewed with



**Table of Contents**

the Special Committee a proposed revised draft of the Merger Agreement, noting that the Merger Agreement would include as a closing condition a requirement that the Merger Agreement be approved by the holders of the majority of outstanding shares of Company common stock not beneficially owned by any Purchaser Group Members or Section 16 officers. The Special Committee asked questions of King & Spalding throughout the presentation and suggested revisions to the Merger Agreement. The Special Committee directed that King & Spalding send the revised Merger Agreement to Munger Tolles as soon as King & Spalding incorporated the Special Committee's revisions to the Merger Agreement.

On May 29, 2015, representatives from King & Spalding sent the revised Merger Agreement to Munger Tolles. Later that day, Party Y sent a letter to Houlihan Lokey reaffirming Party Y's interest in acquiring 100% of the shares of the Company at \$4.21 per share in cash, subject to several conditions, as discussed above.

On June 2, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to update the Special Committee regarding the process. Representatives of Houlihan Lokey noted that Party Y placed an in-bound telephone call to Houlihan Lokey during which Party Y reiterated the message in its May 29, 2015 letter. The Special Committee noted that the Anderson Family continuously had noted that they were not interested in selling any shares of the Company owned by them. Representatives of King & Spalding also informed the Special Committee that there had been no further communication between King & Spalding and Munger Tolles since the distribution of the Merger Agreement on May 29, 2015.

On June 4, 2015, representatives from King & Spalding discussed certain provisions of the revised Merger Agreement with Munger Tolles. As a result of certain agreements reached during that call, on June 5, 2015, representatives from King & Spalding sent a revised Merger Agreement to representatives from Munger Tolles.

Throughout the weeks of June 8, 2015 and June 15, 2015, King & Spalding and Morris Nichols, as counsel to the Special Committee, and Munger Tolles continued to negotiate the terms of the Merger Agreement and the ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement, including the voting agreement, which the Special Committee had requested in order to increase certainty of closing assuming the majority-of-the-minority vote condition is satisfied, and the rollover letter. Included in these negotiations were negotiations regarding the terms of the no-shop provision, the Company's ability to consider alternative proposals, a potential termination fee payable by the Company to the Anderson Family if the Merger Agreement were terminated in certain circumstances and the conditions to closing.

On June 17, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding, met telephonically to discuss the open points in the Merger Agreement and ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement, including the voting agreement and the rollover letter, including certain proposals from Munger Tolles to resolve these points. The Special Committee and King & Spalding discussed replacing the termination fee payable by the Company to the Anderson Family with an expense reimbursement provision, requiring that the Anderson Family reimburse Company expenses under certain circumstances, certain compromises with respect to the no-shop provision and the inclusion of certain conditions to closing. The Special Committee directed its legal advisors to complete negotiations generally on those terms. Following this discussion, and continuing throughout the rest of the month of June, King & Spalding, Morris Nichols and Munger Tolles continued to negotiate the terms of the Merger Agreement and ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement, including the voting agreement and the rollover letter.

On June 30, 2015, the Special Committee, along with representatives from King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey, met telephonically to discuss the status of the negotiations. After providing the Special Committee with an update, representatives from King & Spalding reviewed with the Special Committee its fiduciary duties, certain corporate governance considerations and Delaware law matters, including certain solvency tests that may need to be satisfied in connection with the potential transaction given that the potential transaction would be financed through the use of the

Company's credit facility. Following this discussion, the Special Committee



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**Table of Contents**

directed representatives from King & Spalding to discuss the potential cost of a third-party solvency opinion with the Company's general counsel.

During the first week of July, representatives from King & Spalding and our general counsel discussed several alternatives with respect to a certification as to the Company's solvency following consummation of the potential transaction. Following these discussions, the Company interviewed three independent financial firms to provide a third-party solvency opinion. Following these interviews, the Company solicited engagement paperwork from the Cappello Group, Inc. for review and approval by the Special Committee.

During the week of July 6, 2015 and over the weekend of July 11, 2015 and July 12, 2015, King & Spalding and Morris Nichols, as counsel to the Special Committee, and Munger Tolles and Richards Layton & Finger PA (whom the Anderson Family had retained to serve as its independent legal counsel with respect to Delaware law issues on June 22, 2015), as counsel to the Anderson Family, completed the negotiation of the terms of the Merger Agreement, including completing negotiations with respect to expense reimbursement by each party under certain circumstances (as opposed to a termination fee payable by the Company to the Anderson Family), the no-shop provision, the ability of the Company to consider alternative proposals, and certain closing conditions tied to the receipt of a third-party solvency opinion. During the weekend of July 11, 2015 and July 12, 2015, the Special Committee and the Board were provided copies of the final form of the Merger Agreement and the ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement for their review. The Special Committee and its legal advisors also completed the negotiation of the terms of the ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement, including the voting agreement and the rollover letter. The Special Committee subsequently approved the terms of the Merger Agreement and the ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement. For a detailed summary of the Merger Agreement, please see *The Merger Agreement* on page [ ] and for a detailed summary of the ancillary documentation, including the voting agreement and the rollover letter, please see *Agreements Involving Common Stock* on page [ ].

On July 13, 2015, the Special Committee, along with its legal and financial advisors, met in person in Birmingham, Alabama and discussed, among other things, the status of negotiations with the Anderson Family. Representatives from King & Spalding reviewed with the Special Committee members their fiduciary duties in connection with the potential transaction, including, among other things, certain corporate governance considerations and Delaware law matters. The Special Committee then invited Mr. Bruno, as a member of our Board determined to be independent under the rules of NASDAQ and a member of the audit committee, to join the meeting to listen to presentations by, and discussions with, King & Spalding and Houlihan Lokey. Representatives from King & Spalding reviewed the principal terms of the Merger Agreement and the ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement with the Special Committee and Mr. Bruno. The Special Committee, Mr. Bruno and representatives from King & Spalding also discussed that the Merger Agreement included a closing condition requiring that the Merger Agreement be approved by the holders of the majority of outstanding shares of Company common stock not beneficially owned by Purchaser Group Members or Section 16 officers. Throughout that presentation, the Special Committee, Mr. Bruno and representatives from King & Spalding discussed various aspects of the potential transaction and various provisions of the Merger Agreement and ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement. Representatives from Houlihan Lokey noted that Party Z had not submitted a proposal with respect to a strategic transaction involving the Company and that, other than Party Y, no other party had contacted or submitted to Houlihan Lokey an alternative proposal to purchase the publicly held shares of the Company. The Special Committee concluded that the proposal from Party Y was not viable for various reasons, including the conditions imposed and the fact that the Anderson Family would be required to sell their ownership interest in the Company under Party Y's proposal (which the Anderson Family had confirmed that they were unwilling to do). Also at this meeting, at the Special Committee's request, Houlihan Lokey reviewed with the Special Committee its financial analysis of the Merger Consideration and delivered an oral opinion, confirmed by delivery of a written opinion dated July 13, 2015, to the Special Committee to the effect that, as of that date and based on and subject to the procedures followed, assumptions made, qualifications and limitations on the

review undertaken and other matters considered by Houlihan Lokey in preparing its opinion, the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement was fair to such holders from a financial point of view.

**Table of Contents**

The Special Committee then invited our chief financial officer to join the meeting to discuss the proposed engagement of Cappello Group, Inc. as a valuation firm in order to render a solvency opinion in accordance with the Merger Agreement. The Special Committee and our chief financial officer discussed the proposed terms of the Cappello Group, Inc. engagement letter and the rationale for our chief financial officer's recommendation to engage the Cappello Group, Inc. as the valuation firm and reviewed the proposals made by two other valuation firms. Mr. Bruno, representatives from Houlihan Lokey and our chief financial officer were then excused.

Following a review of the negotiations and discussions regarding the potential transaction, the Special Committee expressed its unanimous view that the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, including the Merger, were in the best interest of the Company and its stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members and Section 16 officers) and thus that it would recommend approval of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement by the Company's Board. For the basis of the Special Committee's determination in this regard, please see *Special Factors – Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Special Committee – Special Committee* on page [ ].

Later on July 13, 2015, our Board met in person in Birmingham, Alabama to receive and discuss the Special Committee's recommendation concerning the potential transaction. At this meeting, the Special Committee recommended to our Board that it approve the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement. Following the Special Committee recommendation and its own deliberations, our Board determined (with Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson abstaining from the vote) the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement are advisable and in the best interest of the Company's stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members and Section 16 officers) and thus resolved to recommend to the Company's stockholders that they approve the adoption of the Merger Agreement and the Merger. For the basis of our Board's determination in this regard, please see *Special Factors – Recommendation of the Board* beginning on page [ ]. Later that day on July 13, 2015, the Merger Agreement was executed by the Company and the special purpose entities formed by the Anderson Family, and the voting agreement was executed by the Company and the members of the Anderson Family. In addition, Family Acquisition Holdings, LLC and the members of the Anderson Family entered into the rollover letter on July 13, 2015.

On July 13, 2015, following the close of trading on the U.S. public stock markets, the Company issued a press release announcing the execution of the Merger Agreement.

**Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Special Committee; Recommendation of the Board; Fairness of the Merger**

Both the Special Committee and our Board believe, based on their consideration of the factors described below, that the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Merger, are fair, in terms of both substance and procedure, to the holders of the Common Stock (other than Purchaser Group Members and Section 16 officers).

*The Special Committee*

The Special Committee, with the advice and assistance of its independent legal and financial advisors, evaluated the Merger, the terms and conditions of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. Over the course of approximately five months, the Special Committee held 33 meetings and led negotiations with the Anderson Family. At a meeting held on July 13, 2015, the Special Committee unanimously determined that the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Merger, are advisable and in the best interests of the Company's stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members or Section 16 officers). The Special Committee

also unanimously recommended that our Board (i) determine that the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Merger, are advisable and in the best interests of the Company's stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members and Section 16 officers); (ii) approve the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Merger; (iii) resolve to recommend that the stockholders of the Company approve the adoption of the Merger Agreement and the

**Table of Contents**

Merger; (iv) approve the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, including the Merger, for purposes of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, and any and all similar applicable state statutes; (v) approve the execution, delivery and performance of the Merger Agreement and the ancillary documentation to the Merger Agreement by the parties thereto for purposes of Section 203 of the DGCL and any and all control share acquisition anti-takeover, interested stockholder or other similar applicable state statutes; and (vi) determine that the Company should retain Cappello Group, Inc. to serve as the valuation firm for purposes of delivering a solvency opinion.

In evaluating the Merger, the Merger Agreement, and the other transactions and agreements contemplated thereby, the Special Committee consulted with the Special Committee's independent legal and financial advisors, consulted with our management and considered a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the following material factors (not necessarily in order of relative importance):

the fact that, as a condition to the closing of the Merger, the Merger Agreement must be adopted by our stockholders, including the holders of the majority of outstanding shares of Common Stock not beneficially owned by Purchaser Group Members or Section 16 officers, which allows for an informed vote by the stockholders on the merits of the Merger;

the fact that the Merger Consideration consists solely of cash, providing our stockholders with certainty of value and liquidity upon consummation of the Merger, particularly in light of the relatively limited trading volume of our stock;

recent and historical market prices for our Common Stock, as compared to the Merger Consideration, including the fact that the Merger Consideration of \$3.25 per share represents an approximate premium of:

93% over the trading price for our Common Stock on January 29, 2015, the date on which certain Purchaser Group Members initially proposed to acquire the Company;

23.1% to the \$2.64 closing price per share of our Common Stock on July 13, 2015, the last trading day before public announcement of the Merger Agreement;

15.2% to the \$2.82 volume weighted average price per share of our Common Stock for the 30-day period ended July 13, 2015;

15.7% to the \$2.81 volume weighted average price per share of our Common Stock for the 90-day period ended July 13, 2015; and

38.3% to the \$2.35 volume weighted average price per share of our Common Stock for the 180-day period ended July 13, 2015.

the fact that the Special Committee negotiated an increase in the Merger Consideration to \$3.25 per share in cash from the Anderson Family's initial proposal of \$2.75 per share in cash on January 29, 2015, as described above under *Background of the Merger* ;

the Special Committee's belief, based on negotiations with the Anderson Family and their advisors, that the Anderson Family's offer of \$3.25 per share in cash was the highest per share consideration that the Anderson Family would be willing to offer;

the financial analysis reviewed by Houlihan Lokey with the Special Committee as well as the oral opinion of Houlihan Lokey rendered to the Special Committee on July 13, 2015 (which was confirmed by delivery of Houlihan Lokey's written opinion, dated July 13, 2015, to the Special Committee) as to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of such date, of the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement. See *Opinion of Financial Advisor to the Special Committee* ;

The Special Committee's independent legal and financial advisors were involved throughout the process and updated the Special Committee directly and regularly;

**Table of Contents**

the Special Committee's review of the structure of the Merger Agreement and the financial and other terms of the Merger Agreement, including, among others, the following specific terms of the Merger Agreement:

the limited and customary conditions to the parties' obligations to complete the Merger, the commitment by Parent and Merger Sub to use their reasonable best efforts to take or cause to be taken all actions to consummate the Merger and the transactions contemplated thereby, including all actions necessary to obtain applicable regulatory approvals, and their agreement to reimburse the Company's expenses in an amount up to \$1,000,000 in certain circumstances;

subject to compliance with the Merger Agreement and prior to the time our stockholders approve the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement, the ability of our Board or an independent committee (or the Special Committee) to participate in discussions or negotiations with, or provide non-public information to, any person in response to an unsolicited acquisition proposal for the Company, if our Board or an independent committee (or the Special Committee) determines, after consultation with outside legal counsel, that such acquisition proposal constitutes or would reasonably be expected to lead to a superior proposal;

the ability of our Board or an independent committee (or the Special Committee), subject to certain conditions, to change its recommendation that our stockholders adopt the Merger Agreement;

our ability to specifically enforce Parent's and Sub's obligations under the Merger Agreement in certain circumstances, including their obligation to consummate the Merger, subject to certain conditions being met; and

the customary nature of the representations, warranties and covenants of Parent and Sub in the Merger Agreement.

the availability of appraisal rights under Delaware law to our stockholders who do not vote in favor of the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement and comply with all of the required procedures under Delaware law, which provides those eligible stockholders with an opportunity to have a Delaware court determine the fair value of their shares, which may be more than, less than, or the same as the amount such stockholders would have received under the Merger Agreement.

The Special Committee also considered a number of factors that are discussed below relating to the procedural safeguards that it believes were and are present to ensure the fairness of the Merger. The Special Committee believes the following factors support its determinations and recommendations and provide assurance of the procedural fairness of the Merger to the Company's minority stockholders:

*Process of the Special Committee.*

The Special Committee consisted solely of independent directors not affiliated with the Anderson Family. The Special Committee was provided a clear mandate to retain independent legal and financial advisors and to determine whether to proceed with a transaction with the Anderson Family and, if a decision was made to so proceed, to review and

negotiate any such transaction. The Anderson Family required in its January 2015 offer approval of the Merger by the Special Committee before moving forward with the Merger. Moreover, our Board resolved that it would not approve or authorize a potential transaction involving the Company and the Anderson Family without the prior favorable recommendation of the Special Committee. The Special Committee met 33 times to evaluate the Anderson Family proposal, the Merger and related matters. During these meetings, the Special Committee extensively deliberated and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the Merger.

*Opinion of Financial Advisor to the Special Committee*

The receipt by the Special Committee of Houlihan Lokey's opinion, dated July 13, 2015, to the Special Committee as to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of such date, of the Merger Consideration to



**Table of Contents**

be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement, which opinion was based upon and subject to the assumptions made, procedures followed, factors considered and limitations on the review undertaken, as further described in the section entitled *Opinion of Financial Advisor to the Special Committee* .

*Terms of the Merger Agreement*

The terms and conditions of the Merger Agreement, including that the Company's ability to terminate after November 30, 2015 (or, under certain circumstances, December 15, 2015) if the Merger Agreement has not occurred prior to such date allows the Company to ensure that the Merger is consummated as negotiated by the Special Committee.

The Special Committee also considered a variety of potentially negative factors in its deliberations concerning the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including, but not limited to, the following (not necessarily in order of relative importance):

the fact that, subsequent to completion of the Merger, the Company will no longer exist as an independent public company and that the nature of the transaction as a cash transaction would prevent our stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members) from participating in any value creation the business could generate, as well as any future appreciation in our value;

the fact that we would be obligated to reimburse Parent's and Sub's expenses in an amount up to \$1,000,000 under certain circumstances and expenses in an amount up to \$500,000 under other circumstances, including the impact of such expense reimbursement on the willingness of other potential acquirers to propose alternative transactions, although our Special Committee believed that such expense reimbursement was reasonable and customary and would not preclude a serious and financially capable potential acquirer from submitting a proposal to acquire the Company following the announcement of the Merger;

the fact that we will be prohibited from soliciting or taking any actions to knowingly facilitate, encourage or assist, or knowingly induce the making of an alternative acquisition proposal (however, we will be able to respond to and engage in discussions of certain unsolicited acquisition proposals, subject to certain conditions, if our Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith that such proposals would reasonably be expected to lead to superior proposals, such proposals did not result from the Company's breach of its obligations under the non-solicitation provisions of the Merger Agreement (other than any such breach caused by Parent, Sub, Clyde B. Anderson or Terrence C. Anderson) and, if the Board or Special Committee determines, after consultation with its counsel, that the failure to take action concerning such proposals would be inconsistent with the directors' fiduciary duties under applicable law);

the fact that Parent's and Sub's obligations to consummate the Merger are subject to certain conditions, including that the total number of dissenting shares does not exceed 10% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock immediately prior to the filing of the certificate of merger, and the possibility that such conditions may not be satisfied, including as a result of events outside our control;

the fact that if the Merger is not consummated:

our directors, officers and other employees will have expended extensive time and effort and will have experienced significant distractions from their work during the pendency of the transaction, and we will have incurred significant transaction costs attempting to consummate the transaction;

the market's perception of our continuing business could potentially result in a loss of customers, vendors, business partners, collaboration partners and employees; and

the trading price of our Common Stock would likely materially decrease;

**Table of Contents**

the potential negative effect of the pendency of the Merger on our business and relationships with customers, vendors, business partners, collaboration partners and employees, including the risk that certain key members of our management might choose not to remain employed with the Company prior to the completion of the Merger, regardless of whether or not the Merger is completed;

the fact that under the terms of the Merger Agreement, we have agreed that we will conduct our business in the ordinary course consistent with past practices and use our reasonable best efforts to preserve intact our business organizations and relationships with third parties and to keep available the services of our current officers and key employees, and that subject to Parent's consent, we will not take a number of specific actions related to the conduct of our business and the possibility that these terms may limit our ability to pursue business opportunities that we would otherwise pursue;

the fact that our directors and officers may receive certain benefits that are different from, and in addition to, those of our other stockholders, as described in *Special Factors – Interests of the Company's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger* beginning on page [ ];

the fact that we have incurred and will continue to incur significant transaction costs and expenses in connection with the potential transaction, regardless of whether the Merger is consummated; and

the fact that the Merger Consideration will be taxable to our taxpaying stockholders.

The Special Committee concluded that the potential benefits that it expected the Company stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members and Section 16 officers) would achieve as a result of the Merger outweighed the risks and potentially negative factors relevant to the Merger. The foregoing discussion of the information and factors considered by the Special Committee is not intended to be exhaustive but includes the material factors considered by the Special Committee. In view of the variety of factors considered in connection with its evaluation of the Merger, the Special Committee did not find it practicable to, and did not, quantify or otherwise assign relative weights to, the specific factors considered in reaching its determination and recommendation. In addition, individual directors may have given different weights to different factors. The Special Committee did not undertake to make any specific determination as to whether any factor or any particular aspect of any factor supported or did not support its ultimate decision. The Special Committee based its recommendation on the totality of the information presented.

The foregoing discussion of the information and factors considered by the Special Committee is forward-looking in nature. This information should be read in light of the factors set forth in the section entitled *Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Information* beginning on page [ ].

**Recommendation of the Board**

The Board consists of five directors. On July 13, 2015, based in part on the unanimous recommendation of the Special Committee, as well as on the basis of the other factors described above, the Board (with Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson recusing themselves) on behalf of the Company:

determined unanimously that the Merger Agreement and the Merger are advisable and are fair to, and in the best interests of, the Company and its stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members or Section 16 officers), including the unaffiliated stockholders;

approved unanimously the Merger Agreement and the Merger; and

resolved unanimously to recommend that the Company's stockholders vote FOR the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement and approve the Merger.

**The Board (with Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson recusing themselves) recommends unanimously that you vote FOR the adoption of the Merger Agreement.**

**Table of Contents**

**Opinion of Financial Advisor to the Special Committee**

On July 13, 2015, Houlihan Lokey orally rendered its opinion to the Special Committee (which was confirmed by delivery of Houlihan Lokey's written opinion, dated July 13, 2015, to the Special Committee) to the effect that, as of such date, the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement was fair to such holders from a financial point of view.

**Houlihan Lokey's opinion was directed to the Special Committee (in its capacity as such), addressed only the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of July 13, 2015, of the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement and did not address any other aspect or implication of the Merger or any other agreement, arrangement or understanding. The summary of Houlihan Lokey's opinion in this proxy statement is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of its written opinion, which is attached as Annex B to this proxy statement and describes the procedures followed, assumptions made, qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken and other matters considered by Houlihan Lokey in connection with the preparation of its opinion. However, neither Houlihan Lokey's opinion nor the summary of its opinion and the related analyses set forth in this proxy statement are intended to be, and do not constitute, advice or a recommendation to the Special Committee, the board, any security holder or any other party as to how to act or vote with respect to any matter relating to the Merger or otherwise.**

In connection with its opinion, Houlihan Lokey made such reviews, analyses and inquiries as it deemed necessary and appropriate under the circumstances. Among other things, Houlihan Lokey:

reviewed an execution version, provided to Houlihan Lokey on July 13, 2015, of the Merger Agreement;

reviewed certain publicly available business and financial information relating to the Company that Houlihan Lokey deemed relevant;

reviewed certain information relating to the historical, current and future operations, financial condition and prospects of the Company made available to Houlihan Lokey by the Company, including financial projections and other estimates (and adjustments thereto) prepared by or discussed with the management of the Company relating to the Company for the fiscal years ended January 31, 2016 through January 31, 2020;

reviewed certain third-party prepared real estate appraisals relating to the Company's properties provided to Houlihan Lokey by the management of the Company;

spoke with certain members of the management of the Company and certain of its representatives and advisors regarding the businesses, operations, financial condition and prospects of the Company, the Merger and related matters;

compared the financial and operating performance of the Company with that of other public companies that Houlihan Lokey deemed relevant;

reviewed the current and historical market prices and trading volumes for Company common stock and the current and historical market prices and trading volumes of publicly traded securities of certain other companies that Houlihan Lokey deemed relevant;

reviewed a certificate addressed to Houlihan Lokey from the senior management of the Company which contains, among other things, representations regarding the accuracy of the information, data and other materials (financial or otherwise) provided to, or discussed with, Houlihan Lokey by or on behalf of the Company; and

conducted such other financial studies, analyses and inquiries and considered such other information and factors as Houlihan Lokey deemed appropriate.

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**Table of Contents**

For purposes of Houlihan Lokey's analyses and opinion, Houlihan Lokey did not rely upon a comparison of the financial terms of the Merger to the financial terms of other transactions given, in the view of Houlihan Lokey, the lack of sufficient information or comparability with respect to other transactions with the Merger. Houlihan Lokey relied upon and assumed, without independent verification, the accuracy and completeness of all data, material and other information furnished, or otherwise made available, to Houlihan Lokey, discussed with or reviewed by Houlihan Lokey, or publicly available, and did not assume any responsibility with respect to such data, material and other information. In addition, the management of the Company advised Houlihan Lokey, and Houlihan Lokey assumed, at the direction of the Special Committee, that the financial projections and other estimates (and adjustments thereto) utilized in Houlihan Lokey's analyses were reasonably prepared in good faith on bases reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of such management as to the future financial results and condition of the Company. Houlihan Lokey also assumed, at the direction of the Special Committee, that the third-party prepared real estate appraisals relating to the Company's properties that were provided to Houlihan Lokey and utilized in its analyses were reasonably prepared in good faith on bases reflecting the best currently available estimated and judgments of the preparer thereof with respect to the matters covered thereby. Houlihan Lokey expressed no opinion with respect to any such projections, estimates or appraisals utilized in its analyses or the assumptions on which they were based. Houlihan Lokey relied upon and assumed, without independent verification, that there were no changes in the businesses, assets, liabilities, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or prospects of the Company since the respective dates of the most recent financial statements and other information, financial or otherwise, provided to Houlihan Lokey that would have been material to its analyses or opinion, and that there was no information or any facts that would have made any of the information reviewed by Houlihan Lokey incomplete or misleading.

Houlihan Lokey relied upon and assumed, without independent verification, that (a) the representations and warranties of all parties to the Merger Agreement and all other related documents and instruments that were referred to therein were true and correct, (b) each party to the Merger Agreement and such other related documents and instruments would fully and timely perform all of the covenants and agreements required to be performed by such party, (c) all conditions to the consummation of the Merger would be satisfied without waiver thereof, and (d) the Merger would be consummated in a timely manner in accordance with the terms described in the Merger Agreement and such other related documents and instruments, without any amendments or modifications. Houlihan Lokey also relied upon and assumed, without independent verification, that (i) the Merger would be consummated in a manner that complies in all respects with all applicable federal and state statutes, rules and regulations, and (ii) all governmental, regulatory, and other consents and approvals necessary for the consummation of the Merger would be obtained and no delay, limitations, restrictions or conditions would be imposed or amendments, modifications or waivers made that would have had an effect on the Company or the Merger that otherwise would have been meaningful in any respect to Houlihan Lokey's analyses or opinion. In addition, Houlihan Lokey relied upon and assumed, without independent verification, that the final executed Merger Agreement would not differ in any respect from the execution version of the Merger Agreement identified above.

Furthermore, in connection with its opinion, Houlihan Lokey was not requested to make, and did not make, any physical inspection or independent appraisal or evaluation of any of the assets, properties or liabilities (fixed, contingent, derivative, off-balance sheet or otherwise) of the Company or any other party nor, except for certain third-party prepared real estate appraisals relating to the Company's properties referred to above, was Houlihan Lokey provided with any such appraisal or evaluation. Houlihan Lokey did not estimate, and expressed no opinion regarding, the liquidation value of the Company or any other entity or business. Houlihan Lokey did not undertake an independent analysis of any potential or actual litigation, regulatory action, possible unasserted claims or other contingent liabilities to which the Company or any other entity was or may be a party or was or may be subject, or of any governmental investigation of any possible unasserted claims or other contingent liabilities to which the Company or any other entity was or may be a party or was or may be subject.

Houlihan Lokey was not requested to, and did not, initiate any discussions with, or solicit any indications of interest from, third parties with respect to the Merger, the securities, assets, businesses or operations of the Company or any other party, or any alternatives to the Merger. Houlihan Lokey's opinion was necessarily based



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**Table of Contents**

on financial, economic, market and other conditions as in effect on, and the information made available to Houlihan Lokey as of, the date of its opinion. Houlihan Lokey did not undertake, and is under no obligation, to update, revise, reaffirm or withdraw its opinion, or otherwise comment on or consider events occurring or coming to Houlihan Lokey's attention after the date of its opinion. Houlihan Lokey also did not express any opinion as to the price or range of prices at which shares of Company Common Stock will trade, or any other securities of the Company may be transferrable, at any time.

Houlihan Lokey's opinion was furnished for the use of the Special Committee (in its capacity as such) in connection with its evaluation of the Merger and may not be used for any other purpose without Houlihan Lokey's prior written consent. Houlihan Lokey's opinion should not be construed as creating any fiduciary duty on Houlihan Lokey's part to any party. Houlihan Lokey's opinion is not intended to be, and does not constitute, a recommendation to the Special Committee, the Board, any security holder or any other party as to how to act or vote with respect to any matter relating to the Merger or otherwise.

Houlihan Lokey's opinion related to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of the date of its opinion, of the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement, without regard to any control, voting, liquidity or other rights or aspects which may distinguish such holders relative to the purchaser group or otherwise. Houlihan Lokey was not requested to opine as to, and did not express an opinion as to or otherwise address, among other things: (i) the underlying business decision of the Special Committee, the Board, the Company, its security holders or any other party to proceed with or effect the Merger, (ii) the terms of any arrangements, understandings, agreements or documents related to, or the form, structure or any other portion or aspect of, the Merger (other than the consideration to the extent expressly specified in Houlihan Lokey's opinion) or otherwise, including, without limitation, any terms or aspects of any rollover, voting or other agreements to be entered into in connection with the Merger, any potential financing for the Merger or the likelihood of consummation thereof, (iii) the fairness of any portion or aspect of the Merger to the holders of any class of securities, creditors or other constituencies of the Company, or to any other party, except if and only to the extent expressly set forth in the last paragraph of Houlihan Lokey's opinion, (iv) the relative merits of the Merger as compared to any alternative business strategies or transactions that might be available for the Company or any other party or whether any alternative transaction might produce consideration for Company unaffiliated shares in an amount in excess of that contemplated by the Merger, including, without limitation, any alternative transaction or consideration contemplated by a third-party written indication of interest received by the Company following public announcement of the Anderson Group's proposal to acquire the remaining shares of Company common stock it does not currently beneficially own, which indication of interest the Special Committee determined, after discussion with the Anderson Group, would not result in a transaction that could be consummated by the Company given the Anderson Group's stated position that it was not willing to pursue alternative transactions, (v) the fairness of any portion or aspect of the Merger to any one class or group of the Company's or any other party's security holders or other constituents vis-à-vis any other class or group of the Company's or such other party's security holders or other constituents (including, without limitation, the allocation of any consideration amongst or within such classes or groups of security holders or other constituents), (vi) whether or not the Company, its security holders or any other party is receiving or paying reasonably equivalent value in the Merger, (vii) the solvency, creditworthiness or fair value of the Company or any other participant in the Merger, or any of their respective assets, under any applicable laws relating to bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent conveyance or similar matters, or (viii) the fairness, financial or otherwise, of the amount, nature or any other aspect of any compensation to or consideration payable to or received by any officers, directors or employees of any party to the Merger, any class of such persons or any other party, relative to the Merger Consideration or otherwise. Furthermore, no opinion, counsel or interpretation was intended in matters that required legal, regulatory, accounting, insurance, tax or other similar professional advice. Houlihan Lokey assumed that such opinions, counsel or interpretations had been or would be obtained from appropriate professional sources. Furthermore, Houlihan Lokey relied, with the consent of the Special Committee, on the assessments of the Special Committee, the Board, the Company and their respective

advisors as to all legal, regulatory, accounting, insurance and tax matters with respect to the Company, the Merger or otherwise. The issuance of Houlihan Lokey's opinion was approved by a Houlihan Lokey committee authorized to approve opinions of this nature.

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**Table of Contents**

In preparing its opinion to the Special Committee, Houlihan Lokey performed a variety of analyses, including those described below. The summary of Houlihan Lokey's analyses is not a complete description of the analyses underlying Houlihan Lokey's opinion. The preparation of such an opinion is a complex process involving various quantitative and qualitative judgments and determinations with respect to the financial, comparative and other analytical methods employed and the adaptation and application of these methods to the unique facts and circumstances presented. As a consequence, neither Houlihan Lokey's opinion nor its underlying analyses is readily susceptible to summary description. Houlihan Lokey arrived at its opinion based on the results of all analyses undertaken by it and assessed as a whole and did not draw, in isolation, conclusions from or with regard to any individual analysis, methodology or factor. While the results of each analysis were taken into account in reaching Houlihan Lokey's overall conclusion with respect to fairness, Houlihan Lokey did not make separate or quantifiable judgments regarding individual analyses. Accordingly, Houlihan Lokey believes that its analyses and the following summary must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of its analyses, methodologies and factors, without considering all analyses, methodologies and factors, could create a misleading or incomplete view of the processes underlying Houlihan Lokey's analyses and opinion.

In performing its analyses, Houlihan Lokey considered general business, economic, industry and market conditions, financial and otherwise, and other matters as they existed on, and could be evaluated as of, the date of its opinion. No company, transaction or business used in Houlihan Lokey's analyses or otherwise reviewed for comparative purposes is identical to the Company or the proposed Merger and an evaluation of the results of those analyses is not entirely mathematical. As a consequence, mathematical derivations (such as the high, low, mean and median) of financial data are not by themselves meaningful and in selecting the ranges of multiples to be applied were considered in conjunction with experience and the exercise of judgment. The estimates contained in the financial forecasts and the implied reference range values indicated by Houlihan Lokey's analyses are not necessarily indicative of actual values or predictive of future results or values, which may be significantly more or less favorable than those suggested by the analyses. In addition, any analyses relating to the value of assets, businesses or securities do not purport to be appraisals or to reflect the prices at which businesses or securities actually may be sold, which may depend on a variety of factors, many of which are beyond the control of the Company. Much of the information used in, and accordingly the results of, Houlihan Lokey's analyses are inherently subject to substantial uncertainty.

Houlihan Lokey's opinion was only one of many factors considered by the Special Committee in evaluating the proposed Merger. Neither Houlihan Lokey's opinion nor its analyses were determinative of the Merger Consideration or of the views of the Special Committee, the Board, management or any other party with respect to the Merger or the Merger Consideration. Houlihan Lokey was not requested to, and it did not, recommend the specific consideration payable in the Merger or that any given consideration constituted the only appropriate consideration for the Merger. The type and amount of consideration payable in the Merger were determined through negotiation between the Special Committee and the Anderson Group, and the decision for the Company to enter into the Merger Agreement was solely that of the Special Committee and the Board.

The following is a summary of the material financial analyses performed by Houlihan Lokey in connection with the preparation of its opinion and reviewed with the Special Committee on July 13, 2015. The order of the analyses does not represent relative importance or weight given to those analyses by Houlihan Lokey. The analyses summarized below include information presented in tabular format. The tables alone do not constitute a complete description of the analyses. Considering the data in the tables below without considering the full narrative description of the analyses, as well as the methodologies underlying, and the assumptions, qualifications and limitations affecting, each analysis, could create a misleading or incomplete view of Houlihan Lokey's analyses.



## Table of Contents

### *Introduction*

In evaluating the Company from a financial perspective, Houlihan Lokey performed various financial analyses as more fully described below utilizing certain financial and operating metrics, as applicable, including:

**Enterprise value** generally, the value as of a specified date of the relevant company's equity market value plus debt outstanding and preferred stock and less cash and cash equivalents.

**EBITDA** generally, the amount of the relevant company's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

**Adjusted EBITDA** generally, the relevant company's EBITDA, adjusted for certain non-recurring items. In connection with its financial analyses, Houlihan Lokey considered certain publicly available information and information provided by the Company's management relating to (a) the Company's retail trade and electronic commerce trade businesses (collectively referred to as the **Retail Business**), taking into account the estimated present value of state-level net operating losses of the Company that the Company's management expects to be utilized by the Company (collectively, the **Company NOLs**), and (b) the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in Preferred Growth Properties, LLC (referred to as the **PGP Business**).

As part of its financial analyses relating to the Retail Business, Houlihan Lokey performed a selected companies analysis and discounted cash flow analysis utilizing internal financial forecasts and other estimates of the Company's management. Such internal financial forecasts and other estimates provided by the Company's management and utilized by Houlihan Lokey for purposes of these analyses reflected adjusted EBITDA and free cash flows for the Retail Business, excluding EBITDA and free cash flows from the PGP Business (based on financial information provided by the Company's management), in order to provide a basis for a comparative analysis of the Company's primary business operations. An estimated present value (as of July 10, 2015 and based on a discount rate of 15.5%), in the amount of approximately \$1.0 million, of the Company NOLs that the Company's management expects to be utilized by the Company was calculated based on internal financial forecasts and other estimates of the Company's management, including an overall weighted average applicable state-level income tax rate of 6.6% as estimated by the Company's management.

As part of its financial analyses relating to the PGP Business, Houlihan Lokey derived a range of approximate implied after-tax equity values for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business of \$18.5 million to \$24.2 million by utilizing certain third-party prepared real estate appraisals relating to the properties included in the PGP Business provided to Houlihan Lokey by the Company's management, subtracting property-level debt (as of May 30, 2015) attributable to each property and adding the cash balance reflected on the balance sheet (as of May 30, 2015) of Preferred Growth Properties, LLC, as adjusted for after-tax gains, if any, with respect to such properties, based on internal estimates of the Company's management. In the case of the Company's Florence, Alabama, Fayetteville, North Carolina and Jacksonville, Florida properties, Houlihan Lokey utilized in its analyses selected reference ranges of approximately \$16.7 million to \$17.3 million, \$4.0 million to \$4.6 million and \$5.4 million to \$6.0 million, respectively. In the case of the Company's Gardendale, Alabama property, which was under development at the time of the third-party appraisal for such property, Houlihan Lokey utilized in its analyses a selected reference range of approximately \$18.8 million to \$23.3 million, the high-end of which represented the appraised value for such property as reflected in the third-party prepared real estate appraisal for such property and the low-end of which represented an

as-completed value, based on internal estimates of the Company's management and utilizing the assumptions reflected in such third-party prepared real estate appraisal, taking into account a normalized fiscal year 2016 estimated net operating income for such property given that the as-completed square footage of such property was less than the projected square footage at the time of such appraisal.

Unless the context indicates otherwise, enterprise values and equity values used in the selected companies analysis described below were calculated using the closing price of Company common stock and the common

**Table of Contents**

stock of the selected companies listed below as of July 10, 2015. Estimates of the future financial and operating performance of the Company relied upon by Houlihan Lokey for purposes of the financial analyses described below were based on the Company's public filings, internal financial forecasts and other estimates of the Company's management and certain third-party prepared real estate appraisals as noted above. Estimates of the future financial and operating performance of the selected companies listed below were based on certain publicly available research analyst estimates, public filings and other publicly available information for those companies.

*July 13, 2015 Financial Analyses*

The financial analyses provided to the Special Committee on July 13, 2015, referred to as the July 13, 2015 financial analyses, included the following:

*Selected Companies Analysis.* Houlihan Lokey performed a selected companies analysis of the Company by reviewing selected financial and stock market data of the Company and the following five selected publicly traded companies in the entertainment products retail industry, referred to as the selected companies:

Barnes & Noble, Inc.

GameStop Corp.

Indigo Books & Music Inc.

Outerwall Inc.

Trans World Entertainment Corporation

The financial and stock market data reviewed, to the extent publicly available, included:

Enterprise value as a multiple of estimated latest 12 months (as of May 30, 2015) adjusted EBITDA;  
and

Enterprise value as a multiple of estimated next fiscal year 2016 adjusted EBITDA, as may have been calendarized to the Company's fiscal year-end of January 31.

The overall low, mean, median and high observed latest 12 months estimated adjusted EBITDA multiples for the selected companies were 1.4x, 4.2x, 4.5x and 6.2x, respectively, and next fiscal year estimated adjusted EBITDA multiples were 2.8x, 4.6x, 5.0x and 5.7x, respectively. Houlihan Lokey then applied selected ranges of latest 12 months (as of May 30, 2015) and next fiscal year 2016 estimated adjusted EBITDA multiples of 3.0x to 4.0x derived from the selected companies to corresponding data of the Retail Business. This analysis indicated, after taking into account the approximate implied after-tax equity value range for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business and the estimated present value of the Company NOLs, the following approximate implied per share equity

value reference ranges for the Company, as compared to the Merger Consideration:

Implied Per Share Equity Value

Reference Range Based On Latest 12 Months Adjusted EBITDA	Merger Consideration
\$2.64 - \$4.15	\$3.25

Implied Per Share Equity Value

Reference Range Based On Next Fiscal Year Adjusted EBITDA	Merger Consideration
\$2.69 - \$4.21	\$3.25

*Discounted Cash Flow Analysis.* Houlihan Lokey performed a discounted cash flow analysis of the Company by calculating the estimated present value of the standalone unlevered, after-tax free cash flows that the Company was forecasted to generate during the 205-day period ending January 31, 2016 through the full fiscal year ending January 31, 2020 based on internal estimates of the management of the Company. The implied



**Table of Contents**

terminal value of the Company was derived by applying to the Company's terminal year unlevered free cash flows a selected range of perpetuity growth rates of 0% to 3.0%. Present values (as of July 10, 2015) of cash flows and terminal values were calculated using a discount rate range of 8.0% to 9.0%. This analysis indicated, after taking into account the approximate implied after-tax equity value range for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business and the estimated present value of the Company NOLs, the following approximate implied per share equity value reference ranges for the Company, as compared to the Merger Consideration:

Implied Per Share Equity Value

Reference Range	Merger Consideration
\$1.67 - \$3.35	\$3.25

*Other Factors.* Houlihan Lokey also observed certain additional factors that were not considered part of Houlihan Lokey's financial analyses with respect to its opinion but were referenced for informational purposes, including, among other things, the following:

the implied premium of the Merger Consideration over the unaffected average closing stock prices per share of Company common stock over the one-day, five-day, ten-day, one-month, three-month, six-month and one-year periods ending on January 29, 2015 (the last trading day prior to the announcement of the Anderson Group's non-binding proposal to acquire certain shares of Company common stock for \$2.75 per share in cash), which indicated a range of premiums of approximately 62.2% to 94.4%, and the implied premium of the Merger Consideration over the unaffected high and low closing stock prices per share of Company common stock during the 52-week period ending on January 29, 2015, which indicated premiums of 31.6% and 132.1%, respectively;

the trading prices and volume of shares of Company common stock during the latest 12 months (as of July 10, 2015), which indicated that during such period, approximately 85% of the shares of Company common stock traded under \$2.75 per share;

the historical trading performance of Company common stock relative to the historical trading performance of an index comprised of the selected companies and the Standard & Poor's 500 index during the period from January 30, 2014 to January 29, 2015, which indicated that, during such period, the stock price of Company common stock decreased by approximately 26.7%, the index comprised of the selected companies decreased by approximately 3.8% and the Standard & Poor's 500 index increased by approximately 12.7%;

transaction values (calculated on an enterprise value basis based on the announced transaction equity price and other public information available at the time of the announcement to the extent publicly available), as a multiple of latest 12 months EBITDA in three transactions (Follett Corporation's announced acquisition in June 2015 of Nebraska Book Company, Inc.'s retail store division, Draw Another Circle, LLC's announced acquisition in July 2014 of Hastings Entertainment Inc. and Barnes & Noble, Inc.'s announced acquisition in September 2009 of Barnes & Noble College Bookstores, Inc.) involving target companies or divisions with, but not limited to, retail bookstore operations, which transactions indicated overall low to high latest 12

months EBITDA multiples for the target companies in such transactions of 4.9x to 26.5x; Houlihan Lokey noted that the Nebraska Book Company, Inc. transaction lacked sufficient publicly available information and, in its view, the Hastings Entertainment Inc. and Barnes & Noble College Bookstores, Inc. transactions lacked sufficient comparability with the Company and the Merger given, in the case of the Hastings Entertainment Inc. transaction, differences in the business and financial profiles of Hastings Entertainment Inc. and the Company and, in the case of the Barnes & Noble College Bookstores, Inc. transaction, the date of such acquisition;

a comparative review of the Company and Barnes & Nobles, Inc., one of the selected companies which Houlihan Lokey considered noteworthy relative to the Company given the focus of the two companies

**Table of Contents**

respective business operations on retail bookstores, notwithstanding the enhanced size and financial performance of Barnes & Nobles, Inc. relative to that of the Company, including:

the historical median enterprise values of the Company and Barnes & Noble, Inc., as a multiple of their respective EBITDA over the six-month, one-year, two-year, three-year, four-year, five-year, six-year, seven-year, eight-year, nine-year and ten-year periods ending January 29, 2015, which indicated a discount in the Company's historical EBITDA multiples relative to Barnes & Noble, Inc.'s historical EBITDA multiples over such periods of approximately (20.3%) to (39.8%); and

in order to compare the the Retail Business with Barnes & Noble, Inc.'s retail stores business segment, a sum-of-the parts overview of Barnes & Noble, Inc.'s retail stores, college bookstores and NOOK business segments utilizing publicly available research analysts' EBITDA multiple targets, which indicated an illustrative implied enterprise value for Barnes & Noble, Inc.'s retail stores business segment as a multiple of fiscal year 2015 estimated EBITDA of 3.5x to 4.4x;

certain liquidity statistics of the Company and the selected companies, including liquidity statistics based on the number of shares outstanding owned by investors other than strategic 5% investors and insiders, institutional holdings, average three-month trading activity and short interests, which indicated that each such liquidity statistic of the Company was less than both the mean and median of the corresponding liquidity statistic for the selected companies;

a comparative review of certain size, growth, profitability, free cash flow, investment, return and balance sheet statistics of the Company and the selected companies, including total revenue and enterprise value, number of stores, historical and projected revenue, comparable same store sales, revenue per retail square foot, adjusted EBITDA and earnings per share growth, adjusted EBITDA and free cash flow margins, free cash flow conversion, depreciation to adjusted EBITDA, capital expenditures to revenue, return on assets and equity and inventory turnover and debt to enterprise value, which indicated that, on the whole, the Company's statistics were generally below both the mean and median of corresponding statistics for the selected companies; and

a review of the capitalization rates of 7.00% to 9.00% reflected in the Company's third-party prepared real estate appraisals for the properties included in the PGP Business, noting that capitalization rates reflected in selected publicly available real estate survey data for strip shopping centers during the period from January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015 (the period encompassing the dates of the Company's third-party prepared real estate appraisals) of 6.91% to 7.05% indicated a variance in capitalization rates since the applicable dates of such third-party prepared real estate appraisals of less than approximately 0.15%.

*April 15, 2015 and April 29, 2015 Preliminary Discussion Materials*

In addition to the July 13, 2015 financial analyses summarized above, Houlihan Lokey also delivered preliminary discussion materials to the Special Committee on April 15, 2015, referred to as the April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials, and on April 29, 2015, referred to as the April 29, 2015 preliminary discussion materials. The preliminary financial considerations and other information in the April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials and April 29, 2015 preliminary discussion materials were based on market, economic and other conditions as of their

respective dates in addition to other information that was available to Houlihan Lokey at such times. Accordingly, the results of such preliminary observations and other information differed from the July 13, 2015 financial analyses as a result of, among other things, changes in such market, economic and other conditions and information. Houlihan Lokey also continued to refine various aspects of such preliminary financial considerations and other information over time.

The April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials and April 29, 2015 preliminary discussion materials did not constitute an opinion of, or recommendation by, Houlihan Lokey with respect to a possible transaction or otherwise. These preliminary discussion materials focused on illustrative latest 12 months and next fiscal year estimated adjusted EBITDA multiples of the selected companies (other than Indigo Books & Music Inc. for

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**Table of Contents**

which meaningful adjusted EBITDA multiples were not available at such time) and a discounted cash flow analysis of the Company utilizing procedures that were generally similar to those contained in the July 13, 2015 financial analyses summarized above. The July 13, 2015 financial analyses were provided in connection with Houlihan Lokey's opinion to the Special Committee and superseded these prior preliminary discussion materials.

*April 15, 2015 Preliminary Discussion Materials*

The April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials contained a preliminary overview of, to the extent publicly available, adjusted enterprise values of the selected companies, calculated using the closing price of Company common stock and the common stock of the selected companies (other than Indigo Books & Music Inc. for which meaningful adjusted EBITDA multiples were not available at such time) as of April 14, 2015 and taking into account average annual debt outstanding, as a multiple of latest 12 months (as of March 31, 2015) estimated adjusted EBITDA and next fiscal year 2016 estimated adjusted EBITDA, as such next fiscal year 2016 estimated adjusted EBITDA may have been calendarized to the Company's fiscal year-end of January 31. The overall low, mean, median and high observed latest 12 months adjusted EBITDA multiples for such selected companies were 4.0x, 4.7x, 4.6x and 5.7x, respectively, and next fiscal year adjusted EBITDA multiples were 4.1x, 4.6x, 4.6x and 5.1x, respectively. The April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials also contained a sensitivities overview of the potential impact on the Company's implied per share equity value assuming implied after-tax equity values for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business ranging from \$18 million to \$24 million and illustrative latest 12 months and next fiscal year estimated EBITDA multiples ranging from 2.5x to 4.5x, which indicated, after taking into account the estimated present value of the Company NOLs, illustrative approximate implied per share equity value reference ranges for the Company of \$1.78 to \$4.69 and \$1.42 to \$4.06, respectively.

The April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials further contained a preliminary discounted cash flow analysis of the standalone unlevered, after-tax free cash flows that the Company was forecasted to generate during the 292-day period ending January 31, 2016 through the full fiscal year ending January 31, 2020 based on internal estimates of the management of the Company. Applying the same discount rates and perpetuity growth rates as described under Discounted Cash Flow Analysis above, with present values of cash flows and terminal values calculated as of April 15, 2015, indicated, after taking into account the approximate implied after-tax equity value range for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business and the estimated present value of the Company NOLs, an illustrative approximate implied per share equity value reference range for the Company of \$1.09 to \$2.35.

The April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials noted that such illustrative implied per share equity values for the Company reflected average debt amounts for the Company's fiscal year ended January 31, 2015 (less adjustments to exclude borrowings related to the PGP Business) for illustrative purposes as a proxy for actual debt amounts, which may vary based on seasonality, and that the results shown therein may vary depending on actual debt amounts.

The April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials also referenced for informational purposes additional financial considerations and other information, including (i) transaction values as a multiple of latest 12 months EBITDA in the transactions identified under Other Matters above (other than Follett Corporation's acquisition Nebraska Book Company, Inc.'s retail store division which was subsequently announced in June 2015), which transactions indicated overall latest 12 months EBITDA multiples for the target companies in such transactions of 4.9x to 26.5x, (ii) certain financial considerations regarding the Anderson Group's ability to fund the Merger, (iii) certain financial considerations regarding an illustrative dividend recapitalization as an alternative to the Merger and (iv) certain financial considerations and other information regarding potential acquirors of the Company.



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**Table of Contents***April 29, 2015 Preliminary Discussion Materials*

The April 29, 2015 preliminary discussion materials contained an update to the sensitivities overview of the potential impact on the Company's implied per share equity value contained in the April 15, 2015 preliminary discussion materials assuming the same ranges of implied after-tax equity values for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business and illustrative latest 12 months and next fiscal year estimated EBITDA multiples, which indicated, after taking into account the estimated present value of the Company NOLs, illustrative approximate implied per share equity value reference ranges for the Company of \$1.81 to \$4.78 and \$1.45 to \$4.13, respectively.

The April 29, 2015 preliminary discussion materials also contained a preliminary discounted cash flow analysis of the standalone unlevered, after-tax free cash flows that the Company was forecasted to generate during the 282-day period ending January 31, 2016 through the full fiscal year ending January 31, 2020 based on internal estimates of the management of the Company. Applying the same discount rates and perpetuity growth rates as described under Discounted Cash Flow Analysis above, with present values of cash flows and terminal values calculated as of April 24, 2015, indicated, after taking into account the approximate implied after-tax equity value range for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business and the estimated present value of the Company NOLs, an illustrative approximate implied per share equity value reference range for the Company of \$1.05 to \$2.34. Based on adjusted illustrative unlevered free cash flows reflecting a hypothetical constant EBITDA margin and reduced capital expenditures over the forecast period with the corresponding adjustment in tax expenses per the management of the Company, such preliminary discounted cash flow analysis indicated, after taking into account the approximate implied after-tax equity value range for the Company's 94.9% ownership interest in the PGP Business and the estimated present value of the Company NOLs, an approximate implied per share equity value reference range for the Company of \$3.18 to \$5.90.

The April 29, 2015 preliminary discussion materials noted that such illustrative implied per share equity value for the Company reflected average debt amounts for the Company's fiscal year ended January 31, 2015 (less adjustments to exclude borrowings related to the PGP Business).

*Other Matters*

Houlihan Lokey was engaged by the Special Committee to act as its financial advisor in connection with the Merger and provide financial advisory services, including an opinion to the Special Committee as to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of such date, of the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement. The Special Committee engaged Houlihan Lokey based on Houlihan Lokey's experience and reputation. Houlihan Lokey is regularly engaged to provide financial advisory services in connection with mergers and acquisitions, financings, and financial restructurings. Pursuant to its engagement by the Special Committee, Houlihan Lokey is entitled to an aggregate fee of \$650,000 for its services, a portion of which became payable upon the execution of Houlihan Lokey's engagement letter, a portion of which was payable during the course of its engagement and \$350,000 of which was payable upon delivery of Houlihan Lokey's opinion. No portion of Houlihan Lokey's fee is contingent upon the successful completion of the Merger. The Company also has agreed to reimburse Houlihan Lokey for certain expenses and to indemnify Houlihan Lokey, its affiliates and certain related parties against certain liabilities and expenses, including certain liabilities under the federal securities laws, arising out of or related to Houlihan Lokey's engagement.

In the ordinary course of business, certain of Houlihan Lokey's employees and affiliates, as well as investment funds in which they may have financial interests or with which they may co-invest, may acquire, hold or sell, long or short positions, or trade, in debt, equity, and other securities and financial instruments (including loans and other obligations) of, or investments in, the Company or any other party that may be involved in the Merger and their

respective affiliates or any currency or commodity that may be involved in the Merger.



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**Table of Contents**

Houlihan Lokey and certain of its affiliates in the past have provided investment banking, financial advisory and/or other financial or consulting services to the Company and certain affiliated entities, for which services Houlihan Lokey and such affiliates received compensation, including, among other things, (i) acting as a financial advisor to a Special Committee of the Board with respect to a potential sale of the Company to the Anderson Group in 2012 and (ii) providing transaction advisory services to an entity affiliated with the Anderson Group (other than the Company) in connection with certain potential acquisition transactions in 2012 and 2013. Houlihan Lokey and certain of its affiliates received aggregate fees for the services described in clauses (i) and (ii) above of \$100,000 and approximately \$260,000, respectively. Houlihan Lokey and certain of its affiliates in the future may provide investment banking, financial advisory and/or other financial or consulting services to the Company, other participants in the Merger and their respective affiliates, for which services Houlihan Lokey and such affiliates may receive compensation. Furthermore, in connection with bankruptcies, restructurings, and similar matters, Houlihan Lokey and certain of its affiliates in the past may have acted, currently may be acting and in the future may act as financial advisor to debtors, creditors, equity holders, trustees, agents and other interested parties (including, without limitation, formal and informal committees or groups of creditors) that may have included or represented and may include or represent, directly or indirectly, or may be or have been adverse to, the Company, other participants in the Merger and/or their respective affiliates, for which advice and services Houlihan Lokey and such affiliates have received and may receive compensation.

**Purchaser Group Members Purposes and Reasons for the Merger**

Under the SEC rules governing going private transactions, each Purchaser Group Member is required to express his, her or its purposes and reasons for the Merger to the Company's unaffiliated security holders as defined under Rule 13e-3 of the Exchange Act. Each Purchaser Group Member is making the statements included in this section solely for the purpose of complying with the requirements of Rule 13e-3 and related rules under the Exchange Act. The views of each Purchaser Group Member should not be construed as a recommendation to any Company stockholder as to how that stockholder should vote on the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement.

For the Purchaser Group Members, a primary purpose for the Merger is to permit the Purchaser Group Members to acquire, through Parent, all shares of Common Stock not owned by them so that the Company can be operated as a privately held company. The Purchaser Group Members believe that as a private company the Company will have greater operating flexibility, and management will be able to more effectively concentrate on long-term growth and reduce its focus on the quarter-to-quarter performance often emphasized by the public markets. Moreover, the Company will not be subject to certain obligations and constraints, and related costs, associated with having publicly traded equity securities.

An additional purpose of the Merger is to enable stockholders other than the Purchaser Group Members to immediately realize the value of their investment in the Company through their receipt of the Merger Consideration of \$3.25 in cash, representing a premium of approximately 93% over the trading price for Common Stock on January 29, 2015, the date on which certain Purchaser Group Members initially proposed to acquire the Company, and a premium of 23% over the closing trading price on July 13, 2015, the date of the announcement of the Merger Agreement.

The Purchaser Group Members believe that structuring the transaction as a merger is preferable to other transaction structures because it will enable Parent to acquire all of the outstanding shares of the Company held by stockholders other than the Purchaser Group Members for cash.

**Position of the Purchaser Group as to Fairness of the Merger**

Under the SEC rules governing going private transactions, each Purchaser Group Member is required to express his, her or its beliefs as to the fairness of the Merger to the Company's unaffiliated security holders as defined under Rule 13e-3 of the Exchange Act. Each Purchaser Group Member is making the statements

**Table of Contents**

included in this section solely for the purpose of complying with the requirements of Rule 13e-3 and related rules under the Exchange Act. The views of each Purchaser Group Member should not be construed as a recommendation to any Company stockholder as to how that stockholder should vote on the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement.

The Purchaser Group Members did not participate in the deliberations of the Special Committee regarding, or receive advice from the Company's or the Special Committee's legal or financial advisors as to, the substantive and procedural fairness of the Merger, nor did the Purchaser Group Members undertake any independent evaluation of the fairness of the Merger or engage a financial advisor for such purposes. The Purchaser Group Members believe, however, that the Merger is substantively and procedurally fair to the Company's unaffiliated stockholders based on the following factors, among others:

the Merger Consideration of \$3.25 per share represents a premium of approximately 93% over the trading price for the Common Stock on January 29, 2015, the date on which certain Purchaser Group Members initially proposed to acquire the Company, and a premium of 23% over the closing trading price on July 13, 2015, the date of the announcement of the Merger Agreement;

the belief that the value to unaffiliated stockholders of the Company continuing as an independent public company would not be as great as the Merger Consideration, due to the public market's emphasis on short term results, and the potential risks and uncertainties associated with the near-term prospects of the Company in light of the ongoing decline and continuing challenges facing the retail book-selling business;

the Merger will provide consideration to the Company's stockholders entirely in cash, thus eliminating any uncertainty in valuing the Merger Consideration and allowing the Company's stockholders to immediately realize a certain value for all of their shares of Common Stock, as a result of which the Company's stockholders will no longer be exposed to the various risks and uncertainties related to continued ownership of the Common Stock, and will have the ability to pursue other investment alternatives;

the Merger will provide the unaffiliated stockholders with a source of liquidity for a relatively illiquid security, as, with an average daily trading volume over the 50 days prior to the announcement of the Merger of approximately [ ] shares per day, the market for the Common Stock has been limited and relatively illiquid and the Purchaser Group Members believe there is little likelihood that a more active market will develop in the foreseeable future;

the Merger Agreement allows the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) to withdraw or change its recommendation of the Merger Agreement in certain circumstances, and to terminate the Merger Agreement in certain circumstances, subject, in certain cases, to the Company reimbursing Parent for up to \$1 million, and up to \$500,000 in other cases, of Merger-related expenses;

the Board established a Special Committee of independent directors, consisting solely of directors who are not officers, employees or controlling stockholders of the Company and are not affiliated with the Purchaser Group Members, to evaluate the Purchaser Group Members' proposal and negotiate with the Purchaser Group

Members;

the Special Committee was deliberative in its process, taking over five months to determine whether the Merger was in the best interests of the Company's unaffiliated stockholders and to analyze, evaluate and negotiate the terms of the Merger;

neither the Purchaser Group Members, nor their affiliates, participated in or had any influence on the deliberative process of, or the conclusions reached by, the Special Committee or the negotiating positions of the Special Committee;

the Special Committee retained independent, nationally recognized legal and financial advisors, each of which has extensive experience in transactions similar to the Merger;

## **Table of Contents**

the \$3.25 per share Merger Consideration and other terms and conditions of the Merger Agreement resulted from extensive negotiations between the Special Committee and its advisors and the Purchaser Group Members and their advisors;

the Special Committee unanimously determined that the Merger Agreement and the Merger are advisable, fair to, and in the best interests of the Company's unaffiliated stockholders;

the Board (with Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson recusing themselves) unanimously (i) approved and adopted the Merger Agreement, (ii) determined that the Merger is advisable, fair to and in the best interest of the Company's unaffiliated stockholders and (iii) resolved to recommend that the stockholders of the Company approve the Merger Agreement;

the fact that the Special Committee received an opinion, dated July 13, 2015, from its financial advisor as to the fairness, from a financial point of view and as of such date, of the Merger Consideration to be received by holders of Company unaffiliated shares pursuant to the Merger Agreement, which opinion was based upon and subject to various assumptions made, procedures followed, factors considered and limitations on the review undertaken;

the Merger is conditioned upon the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of all outstanding shares of Common Stock not held by any Purchaser Group Members or Section 16 officers; and

stockholders who do not vote in favor of the Merger Agreement and who comply with certain procedural requirements will be entitled, upon completion of the Merger, to exercise statutory appraisal rights under Delaware law.

The foregoing discussion of the information and factors considered and given weight by the Purchaser Group Members in connection with the fairness of the Merger is not intended to be exhaustive but includes all material factors considered by the Purchaser Group Members. The Purchaser Group Members did not find it practicable to, and did not, quantify or otherwise assign relative weights to the individual factors considered in reaching their conclusions as to the fairness of the Merger. Rather, the fairness determinations were made after consideration of all of the foregoing factors as a whole.

### **Plans for the Company After the Merger**

It is expected that the Company's operations will be conducted after the Merger substantially as they currently are being conducted. In addition, the Purchaser Group Members have advised the Company that they expect to continue the Company's real estate development and management activities, including by moving forward with the Company's plans to develop the Jacksonville Property, if the purchase of such property is consummated. For purposes of this section, Jacksonville Property refers to those certain parcels of undeveloped land in Jacksonville, Florida, to be purchased pursuant to that certain Purchase and Sale Agreement for Unimproved Land entered into by and among PGP Jacksonville TC, LLC, a subsidiary of the Company, and certain sellers named therein on December 15, 2014 and subsequently amended on March 16, 2015, May 15, 2015 and May 22, 2015, as disclosed in the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 17, 2015.

The directors of Sub will be the directors of the Company immediately following the Merger. The Purchaser Group Members intend that, upon consummation of the Merger, the officers of the Company will remain in their positions.

The Purchaser Group Members have advised the Company that they do not have any current intentions, plans or proposals to cause the Company to engage in any of the following:

an extraordinary corporate transaction following consummation of the Merger such as a merger, reorganization or liquidation;

the relocation of any material operations or sale or transfer of a material amount of assets; or

## **Table of Contents**

any other material changes in its business or the composition of its management. Nevertheless, following consummation of the Merger, the management of the Company and/or Board may initiate a review of the Company and its assets, corporate and capital structure, capitalization, operations, business, properties and personnel to determine what changes, if any, would be desirable following the Merger to enhance the business and operations of the Company and may cause the Company to engage in the types of transactions set forth above if the management and/or Board decides that such transactions are in the best interest of the Company upon such review. The Purchaser Group Members expressly reserve the right to make any changes to the Company's operations after consummation of the Merger that they deem appropriate in light of such evaluation and review or in light of future developments.

### **Certain Effects of the Merger**

If the Merger Agreement is approved by the required vote of the Company's stockholders and the other conditions to the closing of the Merger are either satisfied or waived, Sub will be merged with and into the Company, the separate corporate existence of Sub will cease and the Company will continue its corporate existence under Delaware law as the surviving corporation in the Merger, with all of its rights, privileges, immunities, powers and franchises continuing unaffected by the Merger.

Immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, 9,834,800 shares of Common Stock (the Rollover Shares) held by the Purchaser Group Members will be contributed to Parent in exchange for equity interests in Parent (see *Agreements Involving Common Stock-Rollover Agreements* beginning on page [ ]).

Upon consummation of the Merger:

each share of Common Stock issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger (other than shares owned by Parent and Sub (including Rollover Shares), shares owned by the Company as treasury stock and shares owned by stockholders who have perfected and not withdrawn a demand for appraisal rights) will immediately be converted into the right to receive the Merger Consideration, without interest and less applicable withholding taxes; and

except as set forth in the Rollover Letter or any Management Rollover Agreement (see *Agreements Involving Common Stock; Rollover Agreements* beginning on page [ ]), each share of Common Stock subject to restricted stock awards granted under the Company Equity Plan and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger shall vest and become free of restrictions and be eligible to receive the Merger Consideration without interest and less any applicable withholding taxes.

Following the Merger, the entire equity in the surviving corporation will ultimately be owned by the Purchaser Group Members. If the Merger is completed, the Purchaser Group Members will be the sole beneficiaries of the Company's future earnings and growth, if any, and will be entitled to vote on corporate matters affecting the Company following the Merger. Similarly, the Purchaser Group Members will also bear the risks of ongoing operations, including the risks of any decrease in the Company's value after the Merger and the operational and other risks related to the incurrence by the surviving corporation of additional debt as described below under *Special Factors Financing* on page [ ].





**Table of Contents**

If the Merger is completed, the Company's unaffiliated stockholders will have no interest in the Company's net book value or net earnings. The table below sets forth the direct and indirect interests in the Company's net book value and net earnings of the Purchaser Group Members prior to and immediately after the Merger, based upon the net book value of the Company at January 31, 2015, and the net income of the Company for the year ended January 31, 2015.

	<b>Ownership of Company Prior to the Merger</b>			<b>Ownership of Company After the Merger</b>		
	<b>(in thousands except % ownership)</b>					
	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Net book value at January 31, 2015</b>	<b>Net income for the year ended January 31, 2015</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Net book value at January 31, 2015</b>	<b>Net income for the year ended January 31, 2015</b>
Purchaser Group Members	63.8%	\$ 70,756	\$ 2,258	100%	\$ 110,860	\$ 3,538

A primary benefit of the Merger to the Company's stockholders (other than Purchaser Group Members) will be the right of such stockholders to receive the Merger Consideration as described above, representing a premium of approximately 93% over the trading price for Common Stock on January 29, 2015, the date on which certain Purchaser Group Members initially proposed to acquire the Company, and a premium of 23% over the closing trading price on July 13, 2015, the date of the announcement of the Merger Agreement. Additionally, such stockholders will avoid the risk of any possible decrease in the Company's future earnings, growth or value, and the risks related to the Company's additional leverage.

The primary detriments of the Merger to such stockholders include the lack of interest of such stockholders in the Company's potential future earnings, growth or value. Additionally, the receipt of cash in exchange for shares of Common Stock pursuant to the Merger will generally be a taxable sale transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes to our stockholders who surrender shares of the Common Stock in the Merger.

In connection with the Merger, the Purchaser Group Members will receive benefits and be subject to obligations that are different from, or in addition to, the benefits received by the Company's stockholders generally. The primary benefits of the Merger to the Purchaser Group Members, based on their ownership of all the equity interests in Parent, include their indirect interest in the Company's potential future earnings and growth which, if they successfully execute their business strategies, could be substantial. Additionally, following the Merger, the Company will be a private company, and as such will be relieved of the burdens imposed on companies with publicly traded equity, including the requirements and restrictions on trading that the Company's directors, officers and beneficial owners of more than 10% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock face as a result of the provisions of Section 16 of the Exchange Act. It is estimated that the Company will save approximately \$[ ] per year as a result of no longer being a public company. Additionally, following the Merger, Clyde B. Anderson and each of the Management Rollover Stockholders will retain their respective positions within the surviving corporation, and [ ] will be directors of the surviving corporation. Additional anticipated benefits to the Purchaser Group Members include receiving tax-deferred treatment with respect to the contribution of shares of the Common Stock in the transaction pursuant to the Rollover Letter discussed under *Agreements Involving Common Stock-Rollover Agreements* beginning on page [ ].

The primary detriments of the Merger to the Purchaser Group Members include the fact that all of the risk of any possible decrease in the Company's earnings, growth or value, and all of the risks related to the Company's additional leverage, following the Merger will be borne by Parent. Additionally, the investment by the Purchaser Group Members in Parent and the Company will not be liquid, with no public trading market for such securities, and the equity securities of Parent will be subject to contractual restrictions on transfer.

In connection with the Merger, certain members of the Company's management will receive benefits and be subject to obligations that are different from, or in addition to, the benefits and obligations of the Company's stockholders generally, as described in more detail under *Special Factors Interests of the Company's*

**Table of Contents**

*Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger* beginning on page [ ]. Those incremental benefits are expected to include, among others, certain executive officers continuing as executive officers of the surviving corporation.

The shares of Common Stock are currently registered under the Exchange Act and are quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol BAMB. As a result of the Merger, the Company will be a privately held corporation and there will be no public market for its shares. After the Merger, the shares of Common Stock will cease to be quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market and price quotations with respect to sales of shares of Common Stock in the public market will no longer be available. In addition, registration of the Common Stock under the Exchange Act will be terminated.

At the effective time of the Merger, the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the Company will be amended and restated to read as set forth in Exhibits B and C, respectively, to the Merger Agreement, and, as so amended and restated, will be the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the Company following the Merger until thereafter amended in accordance with their respective terms and the DGCL.

*Projected Financial Information*

Financial projections prepared by management were made available to the Board, the Special Committee, and the Special Committee's advisors. Summaries of these financial projections and forecasts are being included in this proxy statement not to influence your decision whether to vote for or against the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement, but because these financial projections and forecasts were made available to the Board, the Special Committee and the Special Committee's advisors. No person has made or makes any representation to any stockholder regarding the information included in these financial projections or forecasts.

These financial projections and forecasts are based upon a variety of estimates and numerous assumptions made by the Company's management with respect to, among other matters, industry performance, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and other matters, including the factors described under Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Information beginning on page [ ], many of which are difficult to predict, are subject to economic and competitive uncertainties, and are beyond the Company's control. In addition, since the financial projections and forecasts cover multiple years, such information by its nature becomes less reliable with each successive year. As a result, there can be no assurance that the projected results will be realized or that actual results will not be higher or lower than projected.

The financial projections and forecasts do not take into account any circumstances or events occurring after the date they were prepared, and, except as may be required in order to comply with applicable securities laws, the Company does not intend to update, or otherwise revise, the financial projections or forecasts, or the specific portions presented, to reflect circumstances existing after the date when they were made or to reflect the occurrence of future events, even in the event that any or all of the assumptions are shown to be in error.

The financial projections and forecasts were not prepared with a view toward public disclosure, soliciting proxies or complying with generally accepted accounting principles ( GAAP ), the published guidelines of the SEC regarding financial projections and forecasts or the guidelines established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants for preparation and presentation of financial projections and forecasts. Neither Grant Thornton, LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, nor any other independent registered public accounting firm has examined, compiled or performed any procedures with respect to the accompanying financial projections and forecasts, and, accordingly, neither Grant Thornton, LLP nor any other public accounting firm expresses an opinion or any other form of assurance with respect to such projections and forecasts.



**Table of Contents**

For the foregoing reasons, as well as the bases and assumptions on which the financial projections and forecasts were compiled, the inclusion of specific portions of the financial projections and forecasts in this proxy statement should not be regarded as an indication that the Company considers such financial projections or forecasts to be necessarily predictive of actual future events, and the projections and forecasts should not be relied on as such an indication. No one has made any representation to any stockholder of the Company regarding the information included in the financial projections and forecasts discussed below.

(\$ s in millions)	Actual		Fiscal Year Projected			
	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Net Retail Revenue (1)	\$ 473,799	\$ 483,420	\$ 487,484	\$ 494,284	\$ 501,138	\$ 507,820
Gross Margin (non-GAAP)	\$ 138,496	\$ 141,848	\$ 143,361	\$ 145,168	\$ 147,171	\$ 148,820
Operating Income (non-GAAP)	\$ 19,813	\$ 16,228	\$ 18,369	\$ 18,232	\$ 18,365	\$ 17,665
Real Estate/Other Income (non-GAAP) (2)	\$ 1,667	\$ 2,736	\$ 4,808	\$ 6,261	\$ 6,238	\$ 6,214
Net Income Attributable the Company (non-GAAP)	\$ 3,538	\$ 691	\$ 1,976	\$ 3,396	\$ 5,099	\$ 4,826
Operating Cash Flow	\$ 24,655	\$ 17,203	\$ 17,377	\$ 20,060	\$ 19,108	\$ 17,526
Capital Expenditures (3)	\$ 10,395	\$ 13,428	\$ 12,007	\$ 13,033	\$ 12,944	\$ 11,944
Depreciation (4)	\$ 16,861	\$ 15,453	\$ 16,527	\$ 15,257	\$ 12,580	\$ 12,279
Adjusted EBITDA (5)	\$ 19,962	\$ 17,727	\$ 17,339	\$ 17,146	\$ 17,229	\$ 16,530
Unlevered Free Cash Flow (6)		\$ 1,000 <sup>(7)</sup>	\$ 8,700	\$ 4,300	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,900

- (1) Net retail revenue excludes real estate rental revenue
- (2) Real estate income is net of eliminations and includes rental revenue less expenses for the commercial property segment
- (3) Capital Expenditures excludes capital expenditures related to the PGP Business
- (4) Depreciation excludes amortization and de minimis amounts on capital leases
- (5) Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization, adjusted for certain non-recurring items and removal of income related to the PGP Business
- (6) Calculated by the Special Committee's financial advisor for purposes of its discounted cash flow analysis based on internal financial forecasts and other estimates provided by the Company's management
- (7) Represents a 205-day stub period

*Preferred Growth Properties, LLC*

The Company owns a 94.9% ownership interest in Preferred Growth Properties. The remaining 5.1% ownership interest in Preferred Growth Properties is owned by Terrance G. Finley (Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company), R. Todd Noden (Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company), James F. Turner (Executive Vice President/Real Estate and Business Development) and a non-executive employee of the Company. Preferred Growth Properties owns shopping center properties, which were appraised in 2013 and 2014 by an independent valuation firm in connection with third-party financing provided to the Company with respect to those properties.



**Table of Contents**

The following is a summary of certain financial and business information which was provided by the Company's management to the Special Committee's financial advisor with respect to the properties owned by Preferred Growth Properties.

<b>Property Location</b>	<b>Year Acquired</b>	<b>Appraisal Date</b>	<b>Date of Appraisal Value</b>
Florence, Alabama	2013	5/15/2013	5/15/2013
Gardendale, Alabama	2014	2/20/2014	2/1/2015
Fayetteville, North Carolina	2014	8/15/2014	8/15/2014
Jacksonville, Florida	2014	9/9/2014	9/9/2014

<b>Aggregate Purchase Price</b>	<b>Aggregate Capital Expenditures Since Acquisition</b>	<b>Aggregate Investment</b>	<b>Total Appraised Value</b>	<b>Appraisal Rate Range</b>	<b>Total Debt Balance</b>	<b>Cash Balance as of May 30, 2015</b>	<b>Total Tax Basis</b>
<b>(in millions except cap rate %)</b>							
\$29.2	\$ 11.6	\$ 40.8	\$ 50.3	7.00% to 9.00%	\$ 29.9	\$ 4.5	\$ 37.7

**Net Operating Losses**

The Company's management expects to utilize certain net operating losses. The following is a summary of certain financial and business information which was provided by the Company's management to the Special Committee's financial advisor with respect to the Company NOLs.

	<b>For 6.7 Months Ending 1/31/2016E</b>	<b>For Fiscal Year Ending January 31,</b>			
		<b>2017E</b>	<b>2018E</b>	<b>2019E</b>	<b>2020E</b>
	<b>(in millions)</b>				
EBT	\$ 0.9	\$ 3.1	\$ 5.7	\$ 8.5	\$ 8.1
Beginning Balance	\$ 21.3	\$ 20.4	\$ 17.3	\$ 11.6	\$ 3.1
NOLs Utilized	0.9	3.1	5.7	8.5	3.1
Ending Balance	\$ 20.4	\$ 17.3	\$ 11.6	\$ 3.1	\$ 0.0
NOLs Utilized	\$ 0.9	\$ 3.1	\$ 5.7	\$ 8.5	\$ 3.1

**Financing**

The Company and Parent estimate that the total amount of funds (including rollover equity) required to complete the Merger and related transactions and pay related fees and expenses will be approximately \$50 million. Parent expects this amount to be provided through a combination of the proceeds of:

the rollover of the shares of Common Stock held by the Purchaser Group Members immediately prior to the Merger, representing approximately 9,834,800 shares of Common Stock, the equivalent of an investment of approximately \$32.0 million based upon the \$3.25 Merger Consideration, which is described in the *Rollover Financing* section beginning on page [ ]; and

borrowings of approximately \$18 million under the Company's existing credit facilities.

Pursuant to the Company's Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, the participating financial institutions have agreed to make revolving loans to the Company and to issue, up to a \$35.0 million sublimit, letters of credit for the Company. Under the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, Bank of America, in its capacity as Swing Line Lender, has also agreed to make same day advances to the Company in the form of swing line loans up to a \$15.0 million sublimit. The obligations of the Company under the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement are secured by the inventories, accounts receivable and certain other personal property of the Company, pursuant to the terms of a security agreement with Bank of America and the other lenders.



**Table of Contents**

Additionally, the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement contains certain non-financial covenants. The Company was in compliance with these covenants at May 2, 2015.

*Rollover Financing*

On July 13, 2015, the Anderson Family entered into the rollover agreement with Parent (the *Rollover Agreement*), pursuant to which the Anderson Family collectively committed to contribute, immediately prior to the consummation of the Merger, an aggregate amount of 8,879,940 shares of Common Stock to Parent (the equivalent of a \$28.9 million investment based on the \$3.25 per share Merger Consideration) in exchange for certain equity securities of Parent. Terrance Finley, R. Todd Noden and James Turner (the *Management Rollover Stockholders*) have entered into a Rollover Agreement with Parent (the *Management Rollover Agreement*). Pursuant to each Management Rollover Agreement, the Management Rollover Stockholders would, immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, contribute all or a portion of their shares of Common Stock (including restricted shares), representing approximately 954,860 shares of Common Stock, the equivalent of an investment of approximately \$3.1 million based upon the \$3.25 Merger Consideration, to Parent in exchange for equity interests in Parent. The Company is not a party to the Rollover Agreement and will not be a party to any Management Rollover Agreement.

**Interests of the Company's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger**

In considering the recommendation of the Board that you vote to adopt the Merger Agreement, you should be aware that aside from their interests as stockholders of the Company, the Company's directors and executive officers have interests in the Merger that are different from, or in addition to, those of other stockholders of the Company generally. The members of the Special Committee were aware of and considered these interests, among other matters, in evaluating and negotiating the Merger Agreement and the Merger, and in making its recommendations to the Board, which was also aware of and took into account these interests, among other matters, when making its recommendation to the stockholders of the Company that the Merger Agreement be adopted. See *Special Factors Background of the Merger* beginning on page [ ], and *Special Factors Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Special Committee; Recommendation of the Board; Fairness of the Merger* beginning on page [ ].

The Company's stockholders should take these interests into account in deciding whether to vote FOR the adoption of the Merger Agreement. These interests are described in more detail below, and certain of them are quantified in the narrative and the table below.

*Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson*

As of the closing of the Merger, the Company will be owned by Parent. Clyde B. Anderson, the executive chairman and a director of the Company, and Terrence C. Anderson, a director of the Company, along with the other Purchaser Group Members, will own all of the Common Stock of Parent. For a description of the treatment of the Common Stock beneficially owned by Clyde B. Anderson, Terrence C. Anderson and the other Purchaser Group Members in the Merger and a discussion of their continuing interest in the Company, see *Special Factors Certain Effects of the Merger* beginning on page [ ].

*Management Rollover Stockholders*

Subsequent to the execution of the Merger Agreement, Terrance G. Finley, R. Todd Noden and James F. Turner each entered into a Management Rollover Agreement, pursuant to which, each will, immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, contribute all of his shares of Common Stock (including restricted shares) to Parent in exchange for equity interests in Parent. For a description of the treatment of the Common Stock beneficially owned by Messrs.

Finley, Noden and Turner and the other Purchaser Group Members, see *Special Factors* *Certain Effects of the Merger* beginning on page [ ].

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**Table of Contents**

*Restricted Common Stock*

If the Merger is completed, each share of Common Stock subject to restricted stock awards granted under the Company's Equity Plan and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time will vest and become free of restrictions and be eligible to receive the Merger Consideration, without interest, in the same manner as other shares of Common Stock, except that the Merger Consideration paid to such holders will be subject to any required withholding taxes, and will be paid by the surviving corporation.

We estimate the aggregate amount that would be payable to the Company's directors and executive officers (other than Clyde B. Anderson, Terrence C. Anderson and Terrance G. Finley, R. Todd Noden and James F. Turner) as a result of the full vesting and settlement of outstanding restricted shares is approximately \$211,767.

For additional information about beneficial ownership of Common Stock by directors and executive officers, see *Important Information Regarding Books-A-Million Security Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners* beginning on page [ ].

*Indemnification/ Insurance*

The Company's bylaws provide for indemnification of directors and executive officers against certain liabilities that may arise by reason of their status or service as directors or officers. In addition, pursuant to the Merger Agreement, the Company's directors and executive officers will be entitled to certain ongoing indemnification from Parent and the surviving corporation and coverage under directors' and officers' liability insurance policies. The indemnification and insurance provisions in the Merger Agreement are further described in the section entitled *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements Indemnification; Directors and Officers Insurance* on page [ ].

*Compensation of the Special Committee*

The Special Committee consists of two independent members of the Board, Edward W. Wilhelm and Ronald J. Domanico. At a meeting of the Board held on February 25, 2015, the Board adopted resolutions providing for the following compensation structure for each member of the Special Committee:

A one-time fee of \$35,000, paid in cash.

In recommending and approving the compensation structure, the Board considered, among other things, precedent compensation structures for special committees formed for purposes comparable to those for which the Special Committee was formed. The Board considered the nature and scope of the proposed transaction and the time expected to be required by the Special Committee member and chair. The Board also considered the advantages and disadvantages of alternative arrangements, including retainers and per-meeting fees, and determined that the fee structure chosen was consistent with the precedent for comparable transactions that it reviewed with counsel.

**Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger**

The following is a general discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Merger to U.S. holders (as defined below) of Common Stock whose shares are exchanged for cash pursuant to the Merger. This discussion does not address U.S. federal income tax consequences with respect to non-U.S. holders. This discussion is based on the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), applicable U.S. Treasury regulations, judicial opinions, and administrative rulings and published positions of the Internal Revenue Service, each

as in effect as of the date hereof. These authorities are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis, and any such change could affect the accuracy of the statements and conclusions set forth in this discussion. This discussion does not address any tax considerations under state, local or foreign laws or U.S. federal laws other than those pertaining to the U.S. federal income tax. This discussion is not binding on the

**Table of Contents**

Internal Revenue Service or the courts and therefore could be subject to challenge, which could be sustained. We do not intend to seek any ruling from the Internal Revenue Service with respect to the Merger.

For purposes of this discussion, the term "U.S. holder" means a beneficial owner of Common Stock that is:

a citizen or individual resident of the United States;

a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia;

a trust if (1) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more U.S. persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or (2) the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person; or

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source.

This discussion applies only to U.S. holders of Common Stock who hold such shares as a capital asset within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code (generally, property held for investment). Further, this discussion does not purport to consider all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to a U.S. holder in light of its particular circumstances, or that may apply to a U.S. holder that is subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws, including, for example, insurance companies, dealers or brokers in securities or foreign currencies, traders in securities who elect the mark-to-market method of accounting, U.S. holders subject to the alternative minimum tax, persons that have a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar, tax-exempt organizations, banks and certain other financial institutions, mutual funds, certain expatriates, partnerships or other pass-through entities or investors in partnerships or such other entities, U.S. holders who hold Common Stock as part of a hedge, straddle, constructive sale or conversion transaction, U.S. holders who will hold, directly or indirectly, an equity interest in the surviving corporation, and U.S. holders who acquired their Common Stock through the exercise of employee stock options or other compensation arrangements.

If a partnership (including for this purpose any entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds Common Stock, the tax treatment of a partner in that partnership will generally depend on the status of the partners and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership holding Common Stock, you should consult your tax advisor.

Holders of Common Stock are urged to consult their own tax advisors to determine the particular tax consequences to them of the Merger, including the applicability and effect of the alternative minimum tax and any state, local, foreign or other tax laws.

The receipt of cash by U.S. holders in exchange for Common Stock pursuant to the Merger will be a taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In general, a U.S. holder that receives cash in exchange for Common Stock pursuant to the Merger will recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between (1) the amount of cash received and (2) the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in those shares.

If a U.S. holder's holding period in the Common Stock surrendered in the Merger is greater than one year as of the effective date of the Merger, the gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss. Long-term capital gains of certain non-corporate holders, including individuals, are generally subject to U.S. federal income tax at preferential rates. The deductibility of a capital loss recognized on the exchange is subject to limitations. If a U.S. holder acquired different blocks of Common Stock at different times and different prices, that holder must determine its adjusted tax basis and holding period separately with respect to each block of Common Stock.

**Table of Contents***Medicare Tax on Unearned Income*

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012, certain taxable U.S. holders that are individuals, trusts, or estates with adjusted gross income in excess of certain thresholds are subject to a 3.8% tax on all or a portion of net investment income, which includes gains recognized upon a disposition of stock. U.S. holders that are individuals, estates or trusts are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the applicability of the Medicare tax to any gain recognized pursuant to the Merger.

*Information Reporting and Backup Withholding*

Payments made to U.S. holders in exchange for Common Stock pursuant to the Merger may be subject, under certain circumstances, to information reporting and backup withholding (currently at a rate of 28%). To avoid backup withholding, a U.S. holder that does not otherwise establish an exemption should complete and return Internal Revenue Service Form W-9, certifying the holder is a U.S. person, the taxpayer identification number provided is correct and the holder is not subject to backup withholding.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules may be refunded or credited against a U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, if that holder furnishes the required information to the Internal Revenue Service in a timely manner.

**Fees and Expenses**

Except as described under *The Merger Agreement Fees and Expenses Expense Reimbursement Provisions*, if the Merger is not completed, all fees and expenses incurred in connection with the Merger will be paid by the party incurring those fees and expenses, except that the Company will pay the costs of proxy solicitation and printing and mailing this proxy statement and the Schedule 13E-3 and all SEC filing fees with respect to the transaction. Total fees and expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Company in connection with the Merger are estimated at this time to be as follows:

	<b>Amount to be Paid</b>
Financial advisory fee and expenses	\$
Legal, accounting and other professional fees	\$
SEC filing fees	\$ 5,819.26
Proxy solicitation, printing and mailing costs	\$
Transfer agent and paying agent fees and expenses	\$
Total	\$

**Anticipated Accounting Treatment of the Merger**

The Merger will be accounted for in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The Company is currently researching whether the Merger constitutes a change of control under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, which will impact whether the purchase method of accounting or historical book values will be used to account for the transaction.

**Litigation**

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On July 28, 2015, a purported stockholder of ours filed a putative class action lawsuit in the Delaware Court of Chancery against us, our directors, Parent, and Sub. The lawsuit, which we refer to as the Vance Complaint, is captioned: Susan Vance, Individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, v. Books-A-Million, Inc., Clyde B. Anderson, Ronald G. Bruno, Ronald J. Domanico, Edward W. Wilhelm, Terrence C. Anderson, Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc., and Family Merger Sub, Inc., Civil Action No. 111343-VCL . The Vance Complaint



**Table of Contents**

asserts that our board of directors breached their fiduciary duties in agreeing to the merger, and that the Company, Parent, and Sub aided and abetted in the alleged breaches of fiduciary duties. The Vance Complaint seeks to enjoin the Merger and an award of money damages. Although it is not possible to predict the outcome of litigation matters with certainty, we and our directors believe that the claims raised by the purported stockholder are without merit, and we intend to defend the case vigorously.

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**Table of Contents**

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

This proxy statement, and the documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement, include forward-looking statements that reflect our current views as to the expected completion and timing of the Merger and other information relating to the Merger. These statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. There are forward-looking statements throughout this proxy statement, including under the headings, among others, *Summary Term Sheet*, *Questions and Answers About the Special Meeting and the Merger*, *The Special Meeting*, *Special Factors*, and *Important Information Regarding Books-A-Million*, and in statements containing the words aim, anticipate, are confident, estimate, expect, will be, will continue, will likely result, project, believe and other words and terms of similar meaning in conjunction with a discussion of future operating or financial performance or other future events. You should be aware that forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot assure you that the actual results or developments we anticipate will be realized, or even if realized, that they will have the expected effects on the business or operations of the Company. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which the statements were made and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements made in this proxy statement or elsewhere as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. In addition to other factors and matters referred to or incorporated by reference in this document, we believe the following factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements:

the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstance that could give rise to the termination of the Merger Agreement;

the outcome of any legal proceedings that have been or may be instituted against the Company or others relating to the Merger Agreement;

the inability to complete the Merger because of the failure to obtain the Company stockholder approval or the majority of the minority approval, failure of the Company to draw funds from the Company's existing credit facility required to fund the Merger Consideration or the failure to satisfy other conditions to consummation of the Merger;

the failure of the Merger to close for any other reason;

the risk that the pendency of the Merger disrupts current plans and operations and potential difficulties in employee retention as a result of the pendency of the Merger;

the effect of the announcement of the Merger on our business relationships, operating results and business generally;

the amount of the costs, fees, expenses and charges related to the Merger;

and other risks detailed in our filings with the SEC, including our most recent filings on Forms 10-Q and 10-K. See *Where You Can Find Additional Information* beginning on page [ ]. Many of the factors that will determine our future results are beyond our ability to control or predict. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements contained herein, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which reflect management's views only as of the date hereof. We cannot guarantee any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements.

**Table of Contents**

**THE PARTIES TO THE MERGER**

**Books-A-Million, Inc.**

For information about the Company, see *Important Information Regarding Books-A-Million Company Background* beginning on page [ ] and *Where You Can Find Additional Information* beginning on page [ ].

**Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc.**

Family Acquisition Holdings, Inc. (or Parent ) is a newly formed Delaware corporation organized in connection with the Merger. Parent was formed by the Anderson Family. As of the date hereof, Clyde B. Anderson is the sole director and officer of Parent. Parent has not engaged in any business other than in connection with the Merger and other related transactions.

**Family Merger Sub, Inc.**

Family Merger Sub, Inc. (or Sub ) is a newly formed Delaware corporation. Sub is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent and was formed solely for the purpose of engaging in the Merger and other related transactions. As of the date hereof, Clyde B. Anderson is the sole director and sole officer of Sub. Sub has not engaged in any business other than in connection with the Merger and other related transactions.

**Table of Contents**

**THE SPECIAL MEETING**

**Date, Time and Place**

This proxy statement is being furnished to our stockholders as part of the solicitation of proxies by the Board for use at the special meeting to be held on [ ], 2015, starting at [ ], Central Time, at our corporate office annex located at 121 West Park Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35211, or at any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The purpose of the special meeting is for our stockholders to consider and vote upon the adoption of the Merger Agreement. Both the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority stockholder approval must be obtained for the Merger to occur. A copy of the Merger Agreement is attached to this proxy statement as Annex A. This proxy statement and the enclosed form of proxy are first being mailed to our stockholders on [ ], 2015.

In addition, in accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, the Company is providing its stockholders with the opportunity to cast a non-binding, advisory vote on the compensation that may be payable to its named executive officers in connection with the Merger, the value of which is disclosed in the table in the section of the proxy statement entitled *Advisory Vote on Merger Related Compensation* beginning on page [ ]. The vote on executive compensation payable in connection with the Merger is a vote separate and apart from the vote to adopt the Merger Agreement. Accordingly, a stockholder may vote to approve the executive compensation and vote against adoption of the Merger Agreement, or vice versa. Because the vote on executive compensation is advisory in nature only, it will not be binding on either the Company or Parent. Accordingly, because the Company is contractually obligated to pay the compensation if the Merger is approved, the compensation will become payable if the Merger closes, subject only to the conditions applicable thereto, regardless of the outcome of the advisory vote.

**Record Date and Quorum**

The holders of record of Common Stock as of the close of business on [ ], 2015, the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the special meeting, are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting. On the record date, [ ] shares of Common Stock were issued and outstanding.

The presence at the special meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Company entitled to vote on the record date will constitute a quorum, permitting the Company to conduct its business at the special meeting. Proxies received but marked as abstentions will be included in the calculation of the number of shares considered to be present at the special meeting. Broker non-votes, as described below under *The Special Meeting Required Vote Broker Non-Votes*, will not be considered to be present for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists.

**Required Vote**

The Merger cannot be completed unless holders of the majority of the aggregate voting power of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock approve and adopt the Merger Agreement (which we refer to as the Company stockholder approval). In addition, the Merger Agreement makes it a non-waivable condition to the parties' obligations to consummate the Merger that the holders of a majority of outstanding shares of Common Stock not beneficially owned by any Purchaser Group Members or any Section 16 officers, vote in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement (which we refer to as the majority of the minority stockholder approval condition). If you fail to vote on the Merger Agreement, the effect will be the same as a vote against the adoption of the Merger Agreement.

The non-binding, advisory proposal to approve specified compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger and the proposal to adjourn the special

## **Table of Contents**

meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval, requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the subject matter.

### *Broker Non-Votes*

In accordance with the rules of the NASDAQ, banks, brokers and other nominees who hold Common Stock in street name for their customers do not have discretionary authority to vote those shares with respect to the adoption of the Merger Agreement, the advisory (non-binding) proposal on executive compensation payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger, or the proposal to adjourn the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval. Accordingly, if banks, brokers or other nominees do not receive specific voting instructions from the beneficial owners of those shares, they are not permitted to vote those shares with respect to any of the proposals to be presented at the special meeting (this is known as a broker non-vote). As a result, if you hold your Common Stock in street name and you do not provide voting instructions, your Common Stock will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the special meeting and will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the adoption of the Merger Agreement. Assuming a quorum is present, however, broker non-votes will have no effect on the advisory (non-binding) proposal on executive compensation payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger or the adjournment proposal.

### *Abstentions*

Proxies received but marked as abstentions will be included in the calculation of the number of shares of Common Stock represented at the special meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. Such proxies will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement, the advisory (non-binding) vote on the compensation that may be payable to the named executive officers in connection with the Merger and the proposal to adjourn the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval.

## **Voting; Proxies; Revocation**

### *Attendance*

All holders of Common Stock as of the close of business on [ ], 2015, the record date for voting at the special meeting, including stockholders of record and beneficial owners of Common Stock registered in the street name of a bank, broker or other nominee, are invited to attend the special meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, please be prepared to provide proper identification, such as a driver's license. If you hold your shares in street name, you will need to provide proof of ownership, such as a recent account statement or letter from your bank, broker or other nominee, along with proper identification.

### *Voting in Person*

Stockholders of record will be able to vote in person at the special meeting. If you are not a stockholder of record, but instead hold your shares in street name through a bank, broker or other nominee, you must provide a proxy executed in your favor from your bank, broker or other nominee in order to be able to vote in person at the special meeting.





## **Table of Contents**

### *Providing Voting Instructions by Proxy*

To ensure that your shares are represented at the special meeting, we recommend that you provide voting instructions promptly by proxy, even if you plan to attend the special meeting in person.

### *Record Holders*

If you are a stockholder of record, you may provide voting instructions by proxy using one of the methods described below.

*Submit a Proxy by Telephone or via the Internet.* This proxy statement is accompanied by a proxy and voting instruction card with instructions for submitting voting instructions. You may vote by telephone by calling the toll-free number or via the Internet by accessing the Internet address as specified on the enclosed proxy and voting instruction card by the deadlines set forth on the card. Your shares will be voted as you direct in the same manner as if you had completed, signed, dated and returned your proxy and voting instruction card, as described below.

*Submit a Proxy and Voting Instruction Card.* If you complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy and voting instruction card by mail so that it is received before the special meeting, your shares will be voted in the manner directed by you on your proxy and voting instruction card.

If you sign, date and return your proxy and voting instruction card without indicating how you wish to vote, your proxy will be voted in favor of the proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement, the proposal to approve specified compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the Merger, and the proposal to adjourn the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval. If you fail to return your proxy and voting instruction card, the effect will be that your shares will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the special meeting (unless you are a record holder as of the record date and attend the special meeting in person) and will have the same effect as a vote against the adoption of the Merger Agreement, but will not affect the vote regarding the advisory (non-binding) proposal on executive compensation payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger or the vote regarding the adjournment of the special meeting from time to time, if necessary or appropriate (as determined in good faith by the Company), to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval.

### *Street Name Shares*

If your shares are held by a bank, broker or other nominee on your behalf in street name, your bank, broker or other nominee will send you instructions as to how to provide voting instructions for your shares by proxy. Many banks and brokerage firms have a process for their customers to provide voting instructions by telephone or via the Internet, in addition to providing voting instructions by proxy card.

### *Revocation of Proxies*

Your proxy is revocable. If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke your proxy at any time before the vote is taken at the special meeting by:

submitting a new proxy with a later date, by using the telephone or Internet proxy submission procedures described above, or by completing, signing, dating and returning a new proxy and voting instruction card by mail to the Company;

attending the special meeting and voting in person; or

## **Table of Contents**

giving written notice of revocation to the Secretary of the Company at 402 Industrial Lane, Birmingham, Alabama 35211 or by giving notice of revocation in open meeting.

Attending the special meeting without taking one of the actions described above will not revoke your proxy. Please note that if you want to revoke your proxy by mailing a new proxy and voting instruction card to the Company or by sending a written notice of revocation to the Company, you should ensure that you send your new proxy and voting instruction card or written notice of revocation in sufficient time for it to be received by the Company before the day of the special meeting.

If you hold your shares in street name through a bank, broker or other nominee, you will need to follow the instructions provided to you by it in order to revoke your proxy or submit new voting instructions.

## **Adjournments and Postponements**

The special meeting may be adjourned or postponed from time to time, including for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to obtain the Company stockholder approval or obtain the majority of the minority stockholder approval, although this is not currently expected. If there is present, in person or by proxy, sufficient favorable voting power to secure the vote of the stockholders of the Company necessary to adopt the Merger Agreement, the Company does not anticipate that it will adjourn or postpone the special meeting. Any signed proxies received by the Company in which no voting instructions are provided on the adjournment proposal will be voted in favor of adjournment, if the proposal is introduced.

## **Solicitation of Proxies**

We will bear the cost of our solicitation of proxies. This includes the charges and expenses of brokerage firms and others for forwarding solicitation material to beneficial owners of our outstanding Common Stock. We may solicit proxies by mail, personal interview, email, telephone, or via the Internet. The Company has retained Okapi Partners LLC ( Okapi Partners ), a proxy solicitation firm, to assist it in the solicitation of proxies for the special meeting and will pay Okapi Partners a fee of \$[ ], plus reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. In addition, the Company has agreed to indemnify Okapi Partners against certain liabilities including liabilities arising under the federal securities laws. Brokerage houses, nominees, fiduciaries and other custodians will be requested to forward soliciting materials to beneficial owners and will be reimbursed for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in sending proxy materials to beneficial owners.

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**Table of Contents****THE MERGER AGREEMENT**

The following is a summary of the material provisions of the Merger Agreement, a copy of which is attached to this proxy statement as Annex A, and which we incorporate by reference into this proxy statement. The provisions of the Merger Agreement are extensive and not easily summarized. We encourage you to read carefully the Merger Agreement in its entirety, as the rights and obligations of the parties to the Merger Agreement are governed by the express terms of the Merger Agreement and not by this summary or any other information contained in this proxy statement. In addition, you should read *Agreements Involving Common Stock* beginning on page [ ], which summarizes the Voting Agreement and Rollover Agreement, as certain provisions of these agreements relate to certain provisions of the Merger Agreement.

**Explanatory Note Regarding the Merger Agreement**

The following summary of the Merger Agreement, and the copy of the Merger Agreement attached as Annex A to this proxy statement, are intended to provide information regarding the terms of the Merger Agreement and are not intended to modify or supplement any factual disclosures about the Company in its public reports filed with the SEC. In particular, the Merger Agreement and the related summary are not intended to be, and should not be relied upon as, disclosures regarding any facts and circumstances relating to the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates. The Merger Agreement contains representations and warranties by the Company, Parent and Sub, which were made only for purposes of that agreement and as of specified dates. The representations, warranties and covenants in the Merger Agreement were made solely for the benefit of the parties to the Merger Agreement, may be subject to limitations agreed upon by the contracting parties, including being qualified by confidential disclosures made for the purposes of allocating contractual risk between the parties to the Merger Agreement instead of establishing these matters as facts, and may be subject to standards of materiality applicable to the contracting parties that differ from those applicable to investors. In addition, information concerning the subject matter of the representations, warranties and covenants may change after the date of the Merger Agreement, which subsequent information may or may not be fully reflected in the Company's public disclosure. Additional information about the Company may be found elsewhere in this proxy statement and in the Company's other public filings. See *Where You Can Find Additional Information* beginning on page [ ].

**Structure of the Merger**

At the effective time of the Merger, Sub will merge with and into the Company and the separate corporate existence of Sub will cease. The Company will be the surviving corporation in the Merger and will continue to be a Delaware corporation after the Merger. At the closing of the Merger, the certificate of incorporation and the bylaws of the Company, as amended and restated pursuant to the Merger Agreement, will be the certificate of incorporation and bylaws of the surviving corporation.

The directors of Sub immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger will be the initial directors of the surviving corporation and will serve until their earlier death, resignation or removal in accordance with the articles of incorporation and the bylaws of the surviving corporation. The officers of the Company immediately prior to the effective time will be the initial officers of the surviving corporation and will serve until their successors are duly elected or appointed and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation or removal in accordance with the articles of incorporation and the code of regulations of the surviving corporation.

**When the Merger Becomes Effective**

The closing of the Merger will take place no later than the second business day after the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions to closing provided for in the Merger Agreement (other than any condition that by its nature cannot be satisfied until the closing of the Merger, but subject to satisfaction of any such condition), at a place to be agreed by the Company and Parent. The Merger will become effective at the time (which we refer to as the effective time ) when the parties file a certificate of merger with the Secretary of State of the State of

## **Table of Contents**

Delaware, to be executed, acknowledged and filed in accordance with the relevant provisions of Delaware law, or at such later date or time as may be agreed by Parent and the Company in writing and specified in the certificate of merger in accordance with Delaware law.

### **Effect of the Merger on the Common Shares of the Company and Sub**

At the effective time, each outstanding common share of the Company (other than any cancelled shares (as described below, including Rollover Shares) and any dissenting shares) will be converted automatically into and will represent the right to receive \$3.25 in cash per share, without interest (the Merger Consideration ).

Each share of Common Stock of the Company that is held by the Company, Parent or Sub immediately prior to the effective time (which we refer to as a cancelled share ) will be cancelled automatically and will cease to exist, and no consideration will be delivered in exchange for such cancellation.

Each share of Common Stock of the Company that is issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time that is held by any stockholder who delivers to the Company, in accordance with Delaware law, a written demand for payment of the fair cash value for that dissenting share will not be converted into the right to receive the Merger Consideration, unless and until the stockholder loses its rights as a dissenting stockholder.

At the effective time, each common share of Sub issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time will be converted into one common share of the surviving corporation.

### **Treatment of Company Equity Awards**

Each share of Common Stock subject to restricted stock awards granted under the Company Equity Plan, (which shares are also referred to as restricted shares ) and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time (other than any share that is a Rollover Share) will vest and become free of restrictions and be eligible to receive the Merger Consideration, without interest, in the same manner as other shares of Common Stock, except that the Merger Consideration paid to such holders of restricted stock will be subject to any required withholding taxes, and will be paid by the surviving corporation.

### **Payment for the Common Stock in the Merger**

At the effective time, Parent will deposit, or will cause to be deposited, with Wells Fargo Shareowner Services or such other bank or trust company that may be jointly designated by the Company and Parent as the paying agent, in trust for the benefit of holders of Common Stock (other than any cancelled shares, including Rollover Shares, and dissenting shares), sufficient funds for timely payment of the Merger Consideration.

As soon as reasonably practicable and not later than the second business day following the effective time, the surviving corporation will cause the paying agent to mail to each holder of record of Common Stock whose shares of Common Stock were converted into the right to receive Merger Consideration a letter of transmittal and instructions for use in effecting the surrender of certificates (or affidavits of loss in lieu of certificates) that formerly represented Common Stock or non-certificated shares represented by book-entry in exchange for the Merger Consideration.

### **Representations and Warranties**

The Merger Agreement contains representations and warranties of the Company as to, among other things:

corporate organization, existence and good standing, including with respect to the Company's subsidiaries;

the capitalization of the Company, including in particular the number of shares of Common Stock and restricted stock awards outstanding and the existence of any preemptive rights or rights of first refusal with respect to the Common Stock;

**Table of Contents**

corporate power and authority to enter into the Merger Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated by it;

required regulatory filings and authorizations, consents or approvals of government entities and consents or approvals required of other third parties;

the absence of certain violations, defaults or consent requirements under certain contracts, organizational documents and law, in each case arising out of the execution and delivery of, and consummation of, the Contemplated Transactions;

the accuracy of the Company's and its subsidiaries' filings with the SEC and of the financial statements included in the SEC filings;

the truth and accuracy of the Company's proxy statement and Schedule 13E-3 to be filed with the SEC;

the absence of certain undisclosed liabilities for the Company and its subsidiaries;

conduct of the Company's business and the absence of a Company Material Adverse Effect (as defined below) since January 31, 2015;

pending or threatened legal proceedings;

compliance with laws;

the payment of taxes, the filing of tax returns and other tax matters related to the Company and its subsidiaries;

material contracts of the Company and its subsidiaries;

intellectual property owned, licensed or used by the Company or its subsidiaries;

title to all real property owned by the Company or its subsidiaries, leasehold interests under enforceable leases in all of the properties leased by the Company or its subsidiaries and other matters pertaining to real property;



the existing credit agreement of the Company and the absence of any impediments to the drawdown of approximately \$21 million from the Company's credit facility to fund the Merger Consideration

the absence of any fees or commissions owed to investment bankers, finders or brokers in connection with the Merger;

receipt of an opinion from the Special Committee's financial advisor;

the Company's use of all necessary action to ensure that anti-takeover provisions of applicable law will not apply to the Merger; and

the Company stockholder approval.

The Merger Agreement also contains representations and warranties of Parent and Sub as to, among other things:

corporate organization and good standing;

power and authority to enter into the Merger Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated by it;

required regulatory filings and authorizations, consents or approvals of government entities and consents or approvals required of other third parties;

the accuracy of the information provided by Parent and Sub to be included in the proxy statement and Schedule 13E-3;

Sub's operations;

the absence of any fees or commissions owed to investment bankers, finders or brokers in connection with the Merger;

**Table of Contents**

Parent's and Sub's share ownership; and

Parent's delivery of the Rollover Agreements and the Voting Agreement, and the lack of other agreements, contracts, arrangements or understandings between Parent, Sub or any of their affiliates on the one hand, and any of the Company's or its subsidiaries' directors, officers, employees or stockholders on the other hand, that relate to the Contemplated Transactions.

Many of the representations and warranties in the Merger Agreement are qualified by knowledge or materiality qualifications or a material adverse effect clause.

For purposes of the Merger Agreement, a Company Material Adverse Effect, means any effect, event, fact, development, circumstance, condition or change (a Effect ) that, considered together with all other Effects, has had or would reasonably be expected to have or result in a material adverse effect on:

the business, condition (financial or otherwise, including cash condition), operations, assets or financial performance of the Company and its subsidiaries taken as a whole, other than any such Effect resulting from

any decrease in the market price of the Common Stock (but not any effect underlying such decrease to the extent that such Effect would otherwise constitute a Company Material Adverse Effect);

conditions generally affecting the economy or financial markets generally or the industry in which the Company and its subsidiaries operate;

any Effect resulting from the announcement or pendency of the Merger Agreement or the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, including the initiation or continuation of litigation by any person with respect to or related to the subject matter of the Merger Agreement (including any litigation, action, suit, proceeding or investigation made or brought by any of the current or former stockholders of the Company (on their own behalf or on behalf of the Company) that assert allegations of a breach of fiduciary duty relating to the Merger Agreement, or violations of securities laws in connection with the proxy statement);

changes in law or generally accepted accounting principles, interpretations or enforcement thereof;

the occurrence, escalation, outbreak or worsening of any acts of war, armed hostilities, sabotage or terrorism (including cyber-terrorism or cyber-attacks) threatened or underway as of the date of the Merger Agreement;

the existence, occurrence or continuation of any force majeure event, including any earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tropical storms, fires or other national disasters;

any failure by the Company to meet any published analyst estimates or expectations of the Company's revenue, earnings or other financial performance or results of operations for any period, in and of itself, or any failure by the Company to meet its internal or published projections, budgets, plans or forecasts of its revenues, earnings or other financial performance or results of operations, in and of itself (however, the Effects underlying any such failure (if not otherwise falling within one of the other listed exceptions) may be taken into account in determining whether a Company Material Adverse Effect has occurred);

any action taken or not taken by the Company or any of its subsidiaries, in each case that is required or specifically contemplated by the Merger Agreement; or

any action taken or not taken by or at the request of Parent or Clyde B. Anderson or Terrence C. Anderson;

provided that any Effect resulting from any of the matters described in the second, fourth, fifth or sixth bullets may be taken into account in determining whether or not there has been, or is reasonably expected to be, a Company Material Adverse Effect if, but only if, such Effect has a

## **Table of Contents**

disproportionate adverse effect (and solely to the extent of such disproportionate adverse effect) on the Company and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, as compared to other companies in the industry in which the Company and its subsidiaries operate; or

the ability of the Company to consummate the Contemplated Transactions or to perform any of its covenants or obligations under this Agreement, other than any such Effect resulting from any of the matters described in the immediately preceding eighth and ninth bullets.

For the purpose of the Merger Agreement, a material adverse effect, with respect to Parent or Sub, means any Effect that, considered together with all other Effects, has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on the ability of Parent or Sub to consummate the Merger or to consummate the Contemplated Transactions.

## **Conduct of Business Pending the Merger**

The Merger Agreement provides that, subject to certain exceptions or Parent's consent, during the period from the signing of the Merger Agreement to the effective time, the Company must, and will cause each of its subsidiaries to, ensure that the business and operations of the Company and each of its subsidiaries be conducted in the ordinary course of business and in accordance with past practice, and in compliance with all applicable laws and the requirements of the Company's material contracts (including the Company's credit agreement). In addition, subject to certain exceptions or Parent's written consent, the Company must not and shall cause each of its subsidiaries not to:

issue, deliver, sell, grant, dispose of, pledge or otherwise encumber, or authorize or propose the issuance, sale, grant, disposition, pledge or other encumbrance of any shares of its capital stock or any other ownership interest of the Company or any subsidiaries or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any such shares or any other ownership interest, or any rights, warrants or options to acquire any such shares or any other ownership interest or any convertible or exchangeable securities, or any other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries in lieu of outstanding Common Stock;

redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire any outstanding shares of capital stock or other securities of the Company or its subsidiaries, or propose to do so;

split, combine, subdivide or reclassify any Common Stock or declare, accrue, set aside for payment or pay any dividend in respect of any Common Stock, except for dividends by certain subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices;

acquire, sell, lease, license, or dispose of any assets or right other than in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices;

(i) incur, issue or assume any indebtedness or guarantee or otherwise become liable for any indebtedness (including increasing the indebtedness under Company contracts in existence as of the date of the Merger Agreement), other than certain loans and letters of credit under the Company's credit agreement, subject to certain conditions, (ii) make any loans, advances (other than certain expense advances to employees in the

ordinary course) or capital contributions to, or investments in, any other person or entity, other than to the Company or a wholly owned subsidiary, or (iii) sell or transfer, or create, assume or suffer to exist any lien on any accounts receivable (other than in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices);

modify, amend, supplement or terminate, or waive any provision of, the Company's credit agreement or any other loan document;

establish, adopt or enter into any benefit plan, pay any bonus or increase the salary or other compensation payable to any of its directors or any of its officers, other than as required by law or by written agreement in effect on or prior to the date of the Merger Agreement;

enter into or become bound by, or terminate or amend any of the Company's material contracts, other than in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices;

**Table of Contents**

change any of our accounting benefits other than as required by law or generally accepted accounting principles;

amend our charter or bylaws, or form any subsidiary;

acquire any equity interest or other interest in any other entity or effect or become a party to any merger, consolidation, plan of arrangement, share exchange, business combination stock split, reverse stock split or similar transaction;

make any capital expenditure in excess of \$9,300,000 in the aggregate;

make any pledge of any of its assets or permit any of its assets to become subject to any liens, subject to certain exceptions;

promote any employee or change any employee's title except for employees having a title of Vice President or below, or hire any employee or independent contractor with annual target cash compensation in excess of \$200,000;

make or change any material tax election, except in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices;

commence any legal proceeding except with respect to routine collection matters in the ordinary course of business and consistent with past practices, legal proceedings to enforce the Merger Agreement or the Voting Agreement, legal proceedings in connection with the Merger Agreement undertaken in accordance with certain agreed-on control of defense procedures or legal proceedings in connection with the Voting Agreement;

settle any legal proceeding; or

enter into any contract to do any of the above.

**Other Covenants and Agreements**

*Access and Information*

During normal business hours throughout the period prior to the effective time, the Company must, and must cause its representatives to, provide Parent and Parent's representatives reasonable access to the Company's properties, books, records, tax returns, work papers, documents and such other information as Parent reasonably requests. Prior to the effective time, the Company must provide to Parent and Parent's representatives all information concerning the business, properties and personnel of the Company and its subsidiaries as Parent reasonably requests, and provide

copies of certain material notices sent to the Company or its subsidiaries.

*No Solicitation*

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, except as described below, the Company and its subsidiaries have agreed not to, and to instruct their respective officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives, not to, directly or indirectly:

solicit or initiate, or knowingly induce, facilitate or encourage, the making, submission or announcement of any Acquisition Proposal, or take any action that would reasonably be expected to lead to an Acquisition Proposal;

furnish any nonpublic information regarding the Company or any of its subsidiaries to any person in connection with or in response to an Acquisition Proposal;

engage in discussions or negotiations with any person with respect to any Acquisition Proposal;

approve, endorse or recommend any Acquisition Proposal;

enter into any letter of intent or contract contemplating or otherwise relating to any Acquisition Transaction;  
or

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**Table of Contents**

take any action that would render any of the restrictions of any of the Takeover Statutes inapplicable to any person (other than Parent, Sub or any Purchaser Group Members).

An Acquisition Proposal is any inquiry, indication of interest, proposal or offer made by any person (other than Parent or any of its affiliates) contemplating or otherwise relating to any Acquisition Transaction.

An Acquisition Transaction is any transaction or series of related transactions involving: (a) any merger, exchange, consolidation, business combination, plan of arrangement, issuance of securities, acquisition of securities, reorganization, recapitalization, takeover offer, tender offer, exchange offer or other similar transaction: (i) in which a person or group (as defined in the Exchange Act) of persons directly or indirectly acquires beneficial or record ownership of securities representing more than 20% of the outstanding securities of any class of voting securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries whose assets, individually or in the aggregate, constitute 20% or more of the consolidated assets of the Company (as determined on a book value basis); or (ii) in which any of the Company or any of its subsidiaries whose assets, individually or in the aggregate, constitute 20% or more of the consolidated assets of the Company (as determined on a book value basis) issues securities representing more than 20% of the outstanding securities of any class of the Company's or such subsidiary's voting securities; (b) any sale, lease, exchange, transfer, license or disposition of any business or businesses or assets that constitute or account for 20% or more of the consolidated net revenues, consolidated net income or consolidated assets of the Company and its subsidiaries taken as a whole; or (c) any liquidation or dissolution of any of the Company or any of its subsidiaries whose assets, individually or in the aggregate, constitute 20% or more of the consolidated assets of the Company (as determined on a book value basis).

Takeover Statutes means any fair price, moratorium, control share acquisition or any other takeover or anti-takeover statute or similar federal or state law, including the restrictions on business combinations set forth in Section 203 of the DGCL.

If, prior to the receipt of the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority stockholder approval, (i) the Company receives an unsolicited Acquisition Proposal that the Board or an independent committee (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith is or could reasonably be expected to result in a Superior Proposal, (ii) the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal did not result from the Company's breach of its obligations under the non-solicitation provisions of the Merger Agreement (other than any such breach caused by Parent, Sub, Clyde B. Anderson or Terrence C. Anderson) and (iii) after consultation with its counsel, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith that failure to take action concerning the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal would be inconsistent with the directors' fiduciary duties under applicable law, then the Company may:

furnish nonpublic information to the person making the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal and its representatives provided that such person and its representatives enter into a customary confidentiality containing a standstill and the Company gives notice to Parent setting forth the identity of such person and the Company's intention to furnish such nonpublic information, or enter into discussion with, such person;

waive any standstill provision that would prohibit a person or group from communicating an Acquisition Proposal to the Company, the Board or an independent committee; provided that the Company concurrently gives notice to Parent of the existence of such standstill provision and the identity of the person or group subject to such standstill provision; and



participate in discussions or negotiations with that person and its representatives regarding the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal.

For purposes of this proxy statement, a Superior Proposal is an unsolicited *bona fide* written offer by a third party to acquire, directly or indirectly, by merger or otherwise, a majority of the outstanding shares of Common Stock or businesses or assets that constitute or account for a majority of the consolidated net revenues,

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**Table of Contents**

consolidated net income or consolidated assets of the Company and its subsidiaries, taken collectively, that: (a) did not result from a breach of the non-solicitation provisions of the Merger Agreement (other than any such breach caused by Parent or Clyde B. Anderson or Terrence C. Anderson); (b) is not subject to a financing contingency and in respect of which any required financing is then committed; and (c) is determined by the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee), in its good faith judgment, after obtaining and taking into account the advice of an independent financial advisor of nationally recognized reputation and after taking into account, among other things, all legal, financial, regulatory and other aspects of the offer, including any conditions, and the identity of the offeror and the likelihood and anticipated timing of consummation, to be more favorable from a financial point of view to the stockholders of the Company (other than Purchaser Group Members) than the Contemplated Transactions.

The Company must promptly provide to Parent any nonpublic information concerning the Company or any of its subsidiaries that is provided to the person making the unsolicited Acquisition Proposal or its representatives that was not previously provided or made available to Parent.

The Company must promptly (and in any event within one business day) advise Parent orally and in writing of any unsolicited Acquisition Proposal, including the identity of the party making such alternative proposal or inquiry and the terms thereof, and must keep Parent promptly informed with respect to the status of such proposal or any modification or proposed modifications thereto.

Except as described below, neither the, Company, the Board nor any committee thereof is permitted to:

withhold, withdraw, amend, qualify or modify, in a manner adverse to Parent or Sub, or propose publicly to withhold, withdraw, amend, qualify or modify, in a manner adverse to Parent or Sub, the Company Recommendation;

adopt, approve or recommend, or publicly propose to adopt, approve or recommend or publicly take a neutral position or no position with respect to an Acquisition Proposal;

fail to include the Company Recommendation in the Company's proxy statement or fail to recommend against any Acquisition Proposal subject to Regulation 14D of the Exchange Act; or

following receipt of an Acquisition Proposal, fail to reaffirm its approval or recommendation of the Merger Agreement and the Merger within five business days after receipt of any reasonable request by Parent to do so.

For purposes of this proxy statement, Company Recommendation means the Board's determination that the Merger Agreement and the Contemplated Transactions, including the Merger, are advisable and in the best interests of the Company's stockholders (other than any Purchaser Group Members and the Section 16 officers of the Company); the Board's approval of the Merger Agreement and the Contemplated Transactions, including the Merger; and the recommendation that the stockholders of the Company approve the adoption of the Merger Agreement and the Merger.

At any time prior to obtaining the required votes of the Company stockholders, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) may:

make a change-in-recommendation in response to a material event that was not known to the Special Committee on the date of the Merger Agreement (or if known, the consequences of which were not reasonably foreseeable to the Special Committee as of such date), which material event (or the consequences thereof) becomes known to the Special Committee before receipt of the later of the Company stockholder approval or the majority of the minority approval (such event, fact, circumstance, development, occurrence or state of facts an Intervening Event ), if the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith, after consultation with its counsel, that the failure to do so would be inconsistent with the directors' fiduciary duties under applicable law; or

**Table of Contents**

make a change-in-recommendation in response to a Superior Proposal, if the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines in good faith, after consultation with its outside legal counsel, that the failure to do so would be inconsistent with the directors' fiduciary duties under applicable Law.

In either of the two instances described directly above, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) may only make a change-in-recommendation if the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) (i) provides Parent with a notice of its intent to take such action, specifying the identity of the person making the Superior Proposal, the material terms of the Superior Proposal and containing a copy of the material documents or agreements providing for the Superior Proposal, or in the event of a change in recommendation as a result of an Intervening Event, containing a reasonably detailed description of the Intervening Event, (ii) for a period of five days, negotiates with Parent and any representative of Parent (if Parent desires to negotiate) to permit Parent to propose amendments to the Merger Agreement, (iii) on the date that is no later than two business days immediately following such five-day negotiation period, and taking into account any further Parent proposals regarding the Merger Agreement, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) determines that the Superior Proposal would continue to constitute a Superior Proposal, or, in the case of an Intervening Event, the failure to make a change-in-recommendation with respect to such Intervening Event would continue to be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties under applicable law and (iv) in case of a Superior Proposal, such Superior Proposal did not result from a breach of the non-solicitation provisions of the Merger Agreement.

Nothing in the Merger Agreement will prohibit the Company or the Board (or any committee thereof) from (i) disclosing to its stockholders a position contemplated by Rules 14d-9 and 14e-2(a) promulgated under the Exchange Act, or from issuing a stop, look and listen statement pending disclosure of its position thereunder or (ii) making any disclosure to its stockholders if the Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its outside legal counsel, that the failure of the Board to make such disclosure would be reasonably likely to violate U.S. federal or state securities laws or would be inconsistent with the directors' exercise of their fiduciary obligations to the Company's stockholders under applicable law; provided, however, that in no event may the board effect a change-in-recommendation except in accordance with the provisions of the Merger Agreement described above.

*Stockholder Approval*

The Company will take all action necessary in accordance with Delaware law and its articles of incorporation and bylaws to duly call, give notice of, convene and hold a meeting of its stockholders as promptly as practicable following the mailing of this proxy statement for the purpose of obtaining the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority stockholder approval and, subject to certain limitations described in *The Merger Agreement Other Covenants and Agreements - No Solicitation* beginning on page [ ], use all reasonable efforts to solicit from its stockholders proxies in favor of the adoption of the Merger Agreement.

*Reasonable Best Efforts*

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Merger Agreement, each of the parties to the Merger Agreement will use its reasonable best efforts (subject to, and in accordance with, applicable law) to do or cause to be done promptly all things reasonably necessary, proper or advisable to consummate the Merger and the other transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, including:

obtaining from governmental entities any actions, non-actions, clearances, waivers, consents, approvals, permits or orders required to be obtained;

making all registrations, filings, notifications or submissions required under any applicable state or federal securities laws or other applicable law;

**Table of Contents**

furnishing all information required for any application or other filing to be made pursuant to any applicable law;

keeping the other party promptly informed of any material communication received by such party from, or given by such party to, any governmental entity;

permitting the other party to review any material communication (and considering the other party's reasonable comments to) delivered to, any consulting with the other party in advance of any meeting or conference with any governmental entity (including allowing the other party the opportunity to participate in any such meeting or conference);

avoiding the entry of, or having vacated or terminated, any decree, order or judgment that would restrain, prevent or delay the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions; and

executing and delivering any additional instruments necessary to consummate the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions.

*Indemnification; Directors and Officers Insurance*

From and after the effective time, Parent will, and will cause the surviving corporation to, indemnify and hold harmless, and provide advancement of expenses to, the present and former officers and directors of the Company and its subsidiaries (each of whom we refer to as an indemnified party) in respect of acts or omissions in their capacity as an officer or director of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of their respective predecessors or as an officer, director, employee, fiduciary or agent of another agent if the indemnified party was serving in such capacity at the request of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL or provided under the certificate of incorporation, bylaws and any indemnification agreements and any other governing documents of the Company and its subsidiaries in effect on the date of the Merger Agreement.

Parent will purchase a tail policy for a period from after the effective time until six years from the effective time with the same coverage, scope, amounts and terms of the current directors and officers liability insurance maintained by the Company as are in effect as of the date of the Merger Agreement (subject to a maximum aggregate premium of 250% of the cost of the current directors and officers liability insurance).

*Drawdown*

The Company is required to take all necessary action and execute and deliver all necessary documents and certificates, to borrow sufficient funds under the Company's existing credit agreement and to distribute such funds to the Company to fund the aggregate Merger Consideration and make other payments required to be made by the surviving corporation at the closing in connection with the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions.

*Stockholder Litigation*

Each party will give the other the opportunity to participate in the defense or settlement of any stockholder litigation against the any party or its directors relating to the Merger or any other transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, whether commenced prior to or after the execution and delivery of the Merger Agreement, and the

Company will not settle any such litigation without Parent's prior written consent.

*Other Covenants*

The Merger Agreement contains additional agreements between the Company, Parent and Sub relating to, among other matters:

the filing of this proxy statement with the SEC (and cooperation in response to any comments from the SEC with respect to this proxy statement);

the coordination of press releases and other public announcements or filings relating to the Contemplated Transactions;

**Table of Contents**

antitakeover statues or regulations that become applicable to the Contemplated Transactions;

certain matters relating to Section 16 of the Exchange Act;

certain restrictions on additional holders of shares of Common Stock that rollover over such shares in exchange for equity interests in Parent;

the de-listing of the Common Stock from NASDAQ and the deregistration under the Exchange Act; and

obtaining a solvency opinion from an independent appraisal or valuation firm before the mailing of this proxy statement and a bring-down of such opinion from the valuation firm at the closing of the Merger.

**Conditions to the Merger**

The obligations of the Company, Parent and Sub to effect the Merger are subject to the fulfillment or waiver, at or before the effective time, of the following conditions:

that the Company stockholder approval has been obtained;

that the non-waivable majority of the minority stockholder approval has been obtained;

that no governmental entity in the United States having jurisdiction over the Company, Parent or Sub shall have issued an order, decree or ruling or taken any other action enjoining or otherwise prohibiting consummation of the Merger substantially on the terms contemplated by the Merger Agreement that continues to be in effect at the closing of the Merger;

prior to the mailing of this proxy statement, the Board shall have received a favorable solvency opinion from an independent appraisal or valuation firm, and at the closing of the Merger, the Board shall have received a bring-down as to the continued effectiveness of such solvency opinion from such valuation firm; and

that the Company shall have received the funding from the Company's existing credit facility, in an amount sufficient to fund the aggregate Merger Consideration and the other payments to be made by the Company at the closing in connection with the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions.

The obligation of the Company to effect the Merger is subject to the fulfillment or waiver, at or before the effective time, of the following conditions:



the continued accuracy of the representations and warranties of Parent and Sub in the Merger Agreement, except where the failure of such representations and warranties to be true and accurate would not have a material adverse effect on the ability of Parent to consummate the Contemplated Transactions;

that each of Parent and Sub has in all material respects performed all obligations and complied with all covenants required by the Merger Agreement to be performed or complied with by it at or prior to the closing of the Merger; and

that Parent shall have delivered a certificate confirming the accuracy of its representations and warranties and performance of its obligations.

The obligation of Parent and Sub to effect the Merger is subject to the fulfillment or waiver, at or before the effective time, of the following conditions:

the continued accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company in the Merger Agreement, except where the failure of such representations and warranties to be true and accurate would not have a Company Material Adverse Effect;

that the Company has in all material respects performed all obligations and complied with all covenants required by the Merger Agreement to be performed or complied with by it at or prior to the effective time;

**Table of Contents**

that the Company shall have delivered a certificate confirming the accuracy of its representations and warranties and performance of its obligations;

that the total number of dissenting shares does not exceed 10% of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock immediately prior to the filing of the certificate of merger; and

that after giving effect to the consummation of the Merger, no default under the Company's existing credit agreement shall be continuing.

**Termination**

The Company and Parent may terminate the Merger Agreement by mutual written consent at any time before the completion of the Merger, whether prior to or after receipt of the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority stockholder approval. In addition, either the Company or Parent may terminate the Merger Agreement if:

any governmental entity shall have issued an order or taken any other action permanently restraining, enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the consummation of the Merger, and such order is final and nonappealable, subject to certain exceptions;

prior to the effective time, the Board or an independent committee of the Board (including the Special Committee) shall have effected a change-in-recommendation or publicly announced its intention to do so (provided that the right to terminate the Merger Agreement in this instance shall not be available to the Company unless the Company shall have paid, or concurrently with such termination, reimburses Parent for certain expenses (as described in greater detail below));

the Merger has not been completed by the Termination Date, provided that this termination right is not available to a party whose failure to perform any of its obligations under the Merger Agreement has been the primary cause of the failure of the Merger to be consummated by the Termination Date; or

if the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority approval were not obtained at the special meeting of the Company's stockholders (after taking into account any adjournment, postponement or recess of such special meeting), subject to certain exceptions.

The Company may terminate the Merger Agreement:

if there is a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of Parent or Sub, such that the conditions to each party's obligation to effect the Merger or the conditions to the obligation of the Company to effect the Merger would be incapable of fulfillment and the breach or failure is incapable of being cured, or is not cured, within thirty days following written notice of the breach.

Parent may terminate the Merger Agreement:

if there is a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of the Company, such that the conditions to each party's obligation to effect the Merger or the conditions to the obligation of Parent and Sub to effect the Merger would be incapable of fulfillment and the breach or failure is incapable of being cured, or is not cured, within thirty days following written notice of the breach.

**Fees and Expenses**

Except as otherwise provided in the Merger Agreement, as described in this *The Merger Agreement Fees and Expenses* section, whether or not the Merger is consummated, all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the Merger will be paid by the party incurring or required to incur them.

## **Table of Contents**

### *Expense Reimbursement Provisions*

In the event that the Company or Parent terminates the Merger Agreement following a Board or Special Committee change-in-recommendation, or in the event that Parent terminates the Merger Agreement following a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of the Company, then the Company must pay the reasonable expenses of Parent incurred in connection with the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions, not to exceed \$1 million. In the event that the Company or Parent terminates the Merger Agreement because the Company stockholder approval or the majority of the minority approval is not obtained, then the Company must pay up to \$500,000 of such expenses to Parent. In the event that the Company terminates the Merger Agreement following a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of the Parent, then Parent must pay the reasonable expenses of the Company incurred in connection with the Merger and the Contemplated Transactions, not to exceed \$1 million.

### **Amendments and Modification**

The Merger Agreement may be amended, modified and supplemented in any and all respects, whether before or after any vote of the stockholders of the Company at any time prior to the effective time, by written agreement of the Company, Parent and Sub and by action of their respective boards of directors, with the Company acting solely through the Special Committee or a similar independent committee. However, following receipt of the Company stockholder approval and the majority of the minority approval, no amendment may be made to the Merger Agreement that by law requires further approval or authorization by the stockholders of the Company without such further approval or authorization.

### **Specific Performance**

Under certain circumstances, the Company and Parent are entitled to specific performance of the terms of the Merger Agreement, in addition to any other remedy at law or equity.

### **Governing Law**

The Merger Agreement is governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware without giving effect to the principles of conflicts of law thereof or of any other jurisdiction.

**Table of Contents**

**AGREEMENTS INVOLVING COMMON STOCK**

**Voting Agreement**

In connection with the Merger Agreement, Parent, the Anderson Family and the Company entered into a Voting Agreement, dated as of the date of the Merger Agreement (the "Voting Agreement"). On the terms and conditions set forth in the Voting Agreement, members of the Anderson Family have agreed to vote all of the Common Stock over which they have voting power (representing an aggregate of [ ]% of the Company's total outstanding voting power as of the record date) for the adoption of the Merger Agreement.

The foregoing description of the Voting Agreement is qualified in its entirety by the full text of such agreement, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 13, 2015 and is incorporated herein by reference.

**Rollover Agreements**

In connection with the execution of the Merger Agreement, the Anderson Family entered into a Rollover Letter, dated as of the date of the Merger Agreement, with Parent (the "Rollover Letter"). Pursuant to the Rollover Letter, the Anderson Family will, immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, contribute of all their shares of Common Stock to Parent (including restricted shares held by Clyde B. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson) in exchange for equity interests in Parent.

The foregoing description of the Rollover Letter is qualified in its entirety by the full text of such agreement, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 19 to the amended Schedule 13D filed by the Anderson Family on July 13, 2015 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Subsequent to the execution of the Merger Agreement, Terrance Finley, R. Todd Noden and James Turner (the "Management Rollover Stockholders") entered into rollover agreements with Parent (each, a "Management Rollover Agreement"). Pursuant to each Management Rollover Agreement, each Management Rollover Stockholder will, immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger, contribute all of his shares of Common Stock and restricted stock to Parent in exchange for equity interests in Parent. The form of Management Rollover Agreement is filed as Exhibit 23 to the amended Schedule 13D filed by the Purchaser Group Members on August 18, 2015 and is incorporated herein by reference. The foregoing description of the Management Rollover Agreement does not purport to be complete, and is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

**Stockholder Agreement**

Certain members of the Anderson Family, consisting of Charles C. Anderson, Joel R. Anderson, Charles C. Anderson, Jr., Terrence C. Anderson, Clyde B. Anderson, and Harold M. Anderson, are parties to the Anderson Family Stockholder Agreement, dated as of January 1, 2005 (the "Family Stockholder Agreement"), which by its terms would become effective upon the closing of the Merger and also be binding upon the other Anderson Family at that time. The Family Stockholder Agreement provides, among other things, for restrictions on transferability, ownership requirements, and certain put and call rights. The Anderson Family anticipates replacing the Family Stockholder Agreement before the closing of the Merger with a new stockholder agreement to which each member of the Anderson Family would be a party, although the terms of any such new agreement have not been determined.

The Family Stockholder Agreement is filed as Exhibit 22 to the amended Schedule 13D filed by Anderson BMM Holdings, LLC on July 13, 2015 and is incorporated herein by reference. The description of the Family Stockholder

Agreement does not purport to be complete, and is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

**Table of Contents**

**Group Administration Agreement**

The Purchaser Group Members are parties to a Group Administration Agreement (the Group Administration Agreement ), dated as of April 9, 2007, with Abroms & Associates, P.C. (the Group Administrator ), pursuant to which each of the Purchaser Group Members have authorized the Group Administrator to coordinate and administer their transactions in the Common Stock in order to provide for the orderly purchase and disposition of their shares of Common Stock.

Kayrita M. Anderson and the Lauren A. Anderson Irrevocable Trust joined the Group Administration Agreement on September 2, 2008 and April 10, 2014, respectively, and the other Anderson Family entered into the Group Administration Agreement on April 9, 2007.

The Group Administration Agreement is filed as Exhibit 1 to the Schedule 13D filed by Anderson BMM Holdings, LLC on April 9, 2007 and is incorporated herein by reference. The description of the Group Administration Agreement does not purport to be complete, and is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

**Table of Contents****PROVISIONS FOR UNAFFILIATED STOCKHOLDERS**

No provision has been made (i) to grant the Company's unaffiliated stockholders access to the corporate files of the Company, any other party to the Merger or any of their respective affiliates, or (ii) to obtain counsel or appraisal services at the expense of the Company, or any other such party or affiliate.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING BOOKS-A-MILLION****Company Background**

Books-A-Million, Inc. is a leading book retailer primarily located in the eastern United States and operates both superstores and traditional bookstores. Our superstores, the first of which was opened in 1987, range in size from 8,000 to 39,000 square feet and operate under the names Books-A-Million, BAM!, Books and Co. and 2nd & Charles. Our traditional bookstores are smaller stores operated under the names Bookland, Books-A-Million and BAM!. These stores range in size from 2,000 to 10,300 square feet and are located primarily in enclosed malls. All store formats generally offer an extensive selection of best sellers and other hardcover and paperback books, magazines, toys, games, electronics and gifts. In addition to these retail store formats, we offer our products over the internet at Booksamillion.com. Our retail operations also include the operation of Yogurt Mountain Holding, LLC, a retailer and franchisor of self-serve frozen yogurt stores. We also develop and manage commercial real estate investments through our subsidiary Preferred Growth Properties, LLC.

We were founded in 1917, originally incorporated under the laws of the State of Alabama in 1964 and reincorporated in Delaware in September 1992. Our principal executive offices are located at 402 Industrial Lane, Birmingham, Alabama 35211, and our telephone number is (205) 942-3737. Unless the context otherwise requires, references to we, our, us or the Company include our consolidated subsidiaries, American Wholesale Book Company, Inc. ( American Wholesale ), booksamillion.com, inc., BAM Card Services, LLC, Preferred Growth Properties, LLC ( PGP ), PGP Florence, LLC, PGP Gardendale, LLC, PGP Fayetteville, LLC, PGP Jacksonville, LLC, PGP Jacksonville TC, LLC, Pickering Partners, LLC and Yogurt Mountain Holding, LLC.

**Directors and Executive Officers**

The Board presently consists of five members. The persons listed below are the directors and executive officers of Books-A-Million as of the date of this proxy statement.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Position and Office</b>
Clyde B. Anderson	55	Director, Executive Chairman of the Board
Terrence C. Anderson	57	Director
Ronald G. Bruno	63	Director
Ronald J. Domanico	57	Director
Edward W. Wilhelm	56	Director
Terrance G. Finley	62	Chief Executive Officer and President
R. Todd Noden	51	Chief Financial Officer
James F. Turner	52	Executive Vice President/Real Estate and Business Development

Clyde B. Anderson has served as the Executive Chairman of the Board since March 2012. Mr. Anderson served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company from May 2009 to March 2012, when Mr. Terrance G. Finley was elected to the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Company. On August 20, 2009, Mr. Anderson was



re-elected to the position of President, which position he held until August 23, 2011 when Mr. Finley was promoted to the position of President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company. Mr. Anderson served as the Executive Chairman of the Board from February 2004 to March 2009. He has served as a director of the Company since August 1987. Mr. Anderson has served as the Chairman of the Board since

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**Table of Contents**

January 2000 and also served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Company from July 1992 until February 2004. Mr. Anderson also served as the President of the Company from November 1987 to August 1999. From November 1987 to March 1994, Mr. Anderson served as the Company's Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Anderson served on the Board of Hibbett Sports, Inc., a sporting goods retailer, from 1987 to 2008. Mr. Anderson is the brother of Terrence C. Anderson, a member of the Company's Board. Mr. Anderson is not an independent director under the listing standards of the NASDAQ.

Terrence C. Anderson has served as a director of the Company since April 1998. Mr. Anderson serves as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of American Promotional Events, Inc., an importer and wholesaler of pyrotechnics, a position he has held since July 1988. Mr. Anderson is the brother of Clyde B. Anderson, the Executive Chairman of the Board. Mr. Anderson is not an independent director under the NASDAQ listing standards.

Ronald G. Bruno has served as the President of Bruno Capital Management Corporation, an investment company, since 1995 and as the Chairman of Bruno Event Team, LLC, a sports marketing firm, since 1996. He has served as a director of the Company since September 1992. Formerly, Mr. Bruno served as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Bruno's Supermarkets, Inc., a supermarket retailing chain. He also served on the Board for Russell Corporation from 1992 to 2006 and on the Board for SouthTrust Bank, N.A. from 1986 to 2004. Mr. Bruno has been determined to be independent by the Board as defined by the NASDAQ listing standards.

Ronald J. Domanico is currently SVP Strategic Initiatives and Capital Markets of Recall Corporation, a global provider of digital and physical information management services, serving in such capacity since March 2015. Mr. Domanico also serves on the board of NanoLumens, a private corporation that designs and manufactures digital LED displays, serving in such capacity since April 2015. Mr. Domanico is recently retired from HD Supply (HDS), where he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. While at HDS, Mr. Domanico played a key role in the company's successful initial public offering in 2013. Prior to HDS, Mr. Domanico was Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and a member of the Board of Caraustar Industries, Inc. from 2002 to 2009. Prior to Caraustar, Mr. Domanico held various senior financial management positions, most notably Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Nabisco International. Mr. Domanico has been determined to be independent by the Board as defined by Nasdaq listing standards. Mr. Domanico is a member of the Special Committee.

Edward W. Wilhelm is currently Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer of The Finish Line, Inc., a specialty retailer of athletic shoes, apparel, and accessories, serving in such capacity since March 2009. He has served as a director of the Company since May 2013. Previously, Mr. Wilhelm served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Borders Group, Inc. from 2000 to 2009. From 1997 to 2000, Mr. Wilhelm was Vice President of Planning, Reporting, and Treasury for Borders Group, Inc. and served as Vice President of Finance from 1994 through 1997. Mr. Wilhelm is a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Wilhelm has been determined to be independent by the Board as defined by the NASDAQ listing standards. Mr. Wilhelm is the chair of the Special Committee.

Terrance G. Finley has served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Company since March 13, 2012 and as the Company's President since August 23, 2011. He served as the Company's Chief Operating Officer from August 23, 2011 until March 13, 2012. Prior to his promotion to the positions of President and Chief Operating Officer on August 23, 2011, Mr. Finley served as Executive Vice President and Chief Merchandising Officer of the Company beginning in August 2009 and as President, Books-A-Million, Inc. Merchandising Group beginning in October 2005. Mr. Finley served as Executive Vice President of Books-A-Million, Inc. from October 2001 to October 2005. Mr. Finley served in various other capacities in the merchandising department from April 1994 to December 1998. Mr. Finley served as the General Manager of Book\$mart from February 1992 to April 1994. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Finley served as the Vice President-Sales for Smithmark Publishers. Mr. Finley was appointed to the Board of Directors of Hibbett Sports, Inc., a sporting goods retailer, on March 14, 2008.



**Table of Contents**

James F. Turner has served as the Executive Vice President/Real Estate and Business Development since August 23, 2011. He had previously served as the Company's Vice President/Real Estate beginning in June 2003. Prior to June 2003, Mr. Turner held several positions in the Company's finance department, including Controller. Before joining the Company, Mr. Turner served as a Division Controller for Belk, Inc.

R. Todd Noden has served as Chief Financial Officer since April 25, 2012 and was promoted to Executive Vice President on March 28, 2014. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Noden served as Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer for Dobbs Mills, LLC, a textile manufacturing company (2011-2012), Vice President of Accounting & Financial Analysis of RaceTrac Petroleum, Inc. (2006-2011) and in various management consulting roles for more than 10 years prior to 2006.

**Prior Public Offerings**

During the past three years, the Company has not made any underwritten public offering of Common Stock for cash that was registered under the Securities Act of 1933 or exempt from registration under Regulation A.

**Historical Selected Financial Information**

Set forth below is certain historical selected financial information relating to the Company. The historical selected financial data as of and for the fiscal years ended 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011 have been derived from the Company's historical audited consolidated financial statements, and the historical selected financial data as of January 31, 2015, February 1, 2014, February 2, 2013, January 28, 2012 and January 29, 2011 and for the thirteen weeks ended May 2, 2015 and May 3, 2014 are derived from the Company's unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. This information is only a summary and should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended 2014 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended May 2, 2015, each of which is incorporated by reference into this proxy statement. More comprehensive financial information is included in those reports, including management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations, and the following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to those reports and all of the financial information and notes contained therein. For additional information, see *Where You Can Find Additional Information* beginning on page [ ]. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected in any future period.

	Thirteen-Weeks Ended		Fiscal Year Ended				
	May 2, 2015 (unaudited)	May 3, 2014	Jan 31, 2015	Feb 1, 2014	Feb 2, 2013	Jan 28, 2012	Jan 29, 2011
(In thousands except per share amounts)							
<b>Consolidated Statement Of Operations</b>							
Net sales	\$ 100,701	\$ 103,159	\$ 470,971	\$ 468,489	\$ 503,787	\$ 468,521	\$ 494,963
Other revenue	1,106	619	3,113	1,881			
Total revenue	101,807	103,778	474,084	470,370	503,787	468,521	494,963
Interest expense	547	556	2,194	2,079	1,725	1,341	556
Net income (loss) Attributable to Books-A-Million	(5,283)	(5,578)	3,538	(7,584)	2,545	(2,494)	8,939
Earnings (loss) per share:							

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Earnings (loss) per share	(0.37)	(0.38)	0.23	(0.52)	0.16	(0.18)	0.57
Earnings (loss) per share assuming dilution	(0.37)	(0.38)	0.23	(0.52)	0.16	(0.18)	0.57
Cash dividends declared per share						0.05	0.20
Period end market price per share	2.86	2.27	2.52	2.31	2.51	2.51	5.59
Average number of share outstanding	14,188	14,799	14,218	14,708	15,246	15,729	15,617

**Table of Contents**

	Thirteen-Weeks Ended		Fiscal Year Ended				
	May 2, 2015 (unaudited)	May 3, 2014	Jan 31, 2015	Feb 1, 2014	Feb 2, 2013	Jan 28, 2012	Jan 29, 2011
(In thousands except per share amounts)							
<b>Consolidated Statement Of Financial Position</b>							
Inventories	\$ 196,339	\$ 193,335	\$ 187,960	\$ 199,584	\$ 201,527	\$ 201,283	\$ 196,814
Working Capital	50,038	47,761	54,779	55,486	59,763	58,245	68,226
Total Assets	301,262	292,892	294,251	302,732	286,470	296,152	274,802
Property, plant and equipment additions	4,490	5,271	24,880	27,498	19,081	24,272	16,776
Long-term debt	22,988	16,154	23,143	16,300	4,920	5,445	
Books-A-Million, Inc. Stockholders equity	105,840	103,558	110,860	108,919	116,517	114,588	117,116
Stockholders equity per share	7.46	7.00	7.80	7.41	7.64	7.29	7.50
Net return on average stockholders equity from continuing operations	-5.0%	-5.4%	3.2%	-7.0%	2.2%	-2.2%	7.6%
<b>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</b>							

The following table presents our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the fiscal periods indicated.

	Thirteen-Weeks Ended			Fiscal Year Ended (1)			
	May 2, 2015	May 3, 2014	Jan 31, 2015	Feb 1, 2014	Feb 2, 2013	Jan 28, 2012	Jan 29, 2011
<b>Fixed Charges:</b>							
Interest Expense & Capitalized Interest Amortized Premiums, Discounts and Capitalized Expenses related to Debt	547	556	2,315	2,079	1,807	1,341	556
Estimate of Interest within Rental Expense (1/3 of operating lease expense)	79	72	306	270	249	203	
Preference Security Dividend Requirements of Consolidated Subsidiaries	3,609	3,630	14,602	14,845	14,632	13,530	12,546
<b>Total Fixed Charges</b>	<b>4,235</b>	<b>4,258</b>	<b>17,223</b>	<b>17,194</b>	<b>16,688</b>	<b>15,074</b>	<b>13,102</b>
<b>Earnings:</b>							
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision (benefit) for income taxes	(5,564)	(6,099)	2,425	(3,558)	5,186	(5,338)	13,777
<b>Add:</b>							

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Fixed Charges	4,235	4,258	17,223	17,194	16,688	15,074	13,102
Amortization of Capitalized Interest			3	2	1		
Distributed Income of Equity Investee	(79)	114	241	157	(782)	(300)	(464)
<b>Less:</b>							
Interest Capitalized	1	1	121		82		
Non-controlling interest in pre-tax income of subsidiaries that have not incurred fixed charges	28	(424)	(630)	(779)			
<b>Adjusted Earnings</b>	<b>(1,437)</b>	<b>(1,304)</b>	<b>20,401</b>	<b>14,574</b>	<b>21,011</b>	<b>9,436</b>	<b>26,415</b>
<b>Ratio of Earning to Fixed Charges (2)(3)</b>	<b>(0.34)</b>	<b>(0.31)</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>0.63</b>	<b>2.02</b>

- (1) The fiscal year ended February 3, 2013 includes 53 weeks. All other fiscal years reported include 52 weeks.
- (2) For the fiscal years ended February 1, 2014 and January 28, 2012, our earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$2.6 million and \$5.6 million, respectively.

**Table of Contents**

(3) For the thirteen-week periods ended May 2, 2015 and May 3, 2014, our earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$5.6 million in both periods.

**Book Value Per Share**

Our net book value per share as of May 2, 2015 was approximately \$7.46 (calculated based on 14,188,000 shares outstanding as of such date).

**Market Price of the Common Stock**

The Common Stock is traded on NASDAQ under the symbol BAMB.

The following table sets forth for the periods indicated the high and low sales prices for the Common Stock.

Fiscal Year	Market Price	
	High	Low
<b>2016</b>		
First Quarter	\$ 2.87	\$ 2.53
Second Quarter	\$ 3.23	\$ 2.59
Third Quarter (through August 13, 2015)	\$ 3.24	\$ 3.21
<b>2015</b>		
First Quarter	\$ 2.47	\$ 2.22
Second Quarter	\$ 2.32	\$ 2.02
Third Quarter	\$ 2.15	\$ 1.42
Fourth Quarter	\$ 2.52	\$ 1.40
<b>2014</b>		
First Quarter	\$ 2.79	\$ 2.30
Second Quarter	\$ 3.20	\$ 2.39
Third Quarter	\$ 2.52	\$ 2.21
Fourth Quarter	\$ 2.58	\$ 2.19

**Dividends**

The Company has not paid any dividends during the periods set forth above.

**Security Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners***Security Ownership of Management*

At the close of business on July 4, 2015, our directors, the named executive officers and the directors and executive officers as a group beneficially owned and had sole voting and dispositive power (except as otherwise indicated) of our Common Stock as set forth in the following table:

Name	Title of Class	Amount & Nature of	Percent of	Deferred Compensation
------	----------------	-----------------------	---------------	--------------------------



		<b>Beneficial Ownership</b>	<b>Class Outstanding</b>	<b>Plan Share Equivalents</b>
Clyde B. Anderson	BAMM Common Stock	3,253,425	21.1%	319,304
Terrence C. Anderson	BAMM Common Stock	719,114	4.7%	19,904
Terrance G. Finley	BAMM Common Stock	463,472	3.0%	212,869
R. Todd Noden	BAMM Common Stock	272,500	1.8%	251,527
James F. Turner	BAMM Common Stock	218,888	1.4%	121,507
Ronald G. Bruno	BAMM Common Stock	117,735	0.8%	19,904
Edward W. Wilhelm	BAMM Common Stock	32,262	0.2%	24,652
Ronald J. Domanico	BAMM Common Stock	24,509	0.2%	24,509

**Table of Contents***Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners*

In addition to Clyde B. Anderson, whose business address is 2801 Highway 280 South, Suite 350, Birmingham, Alabama 35223 and whose share ownership is presented above, the following table presents certain information regarding other stockholders who are known to us to be beneficial owners of more than 5% of our voting securities as of the close of business on July 4, 2015:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title of Class</b>	<b>Amount &amp; Nature of Beneficial Ownership</b>	<b>Percent of Class Outstanding</b>
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP Palisades West, Building One, 6300 Bee Cave Road Austin, Texas 78746	BAMM Common Stock	856,422	5.6%
Anderson BAMM Holdings, LLC 201 South Court Street Suite 610 Florence, Alabama 35630	BAMM Common Stock	1,513,302	9.8%
Joel R. Anderson 202 North Court Street Florence, Alabama 35630	BAMM Common Stock	1,614,874	10.5%

**Transactions in Common Stock**

Other than the Rollover Letter, the Management Rollover Agreements, as discussed in the section entitled *Agreements Involving Common Stock; Rollover Agreements* and as set forth immediately below, the Purchaser Group Members, including, as applicable, their respective directors and executive officers, have not made any purchases of the Company's Common Stock during the past two years.

On October 10, 2014, certain members of the Anderson Family purchased shares of Common Stock from Charles C. Anderson, as set forth below:

<b>Name</b>	<b># of Shares of Common Stock</b>		<b>Price Per Share</b>
	<b>Purchased</b>		
Clyde B. Anderson	1,059,662		\$ 1.56
Terrence C. Anderson	307,138		\$ 1.56
Charles C. Anderson, Jr.	307,138		\$ 1.56
Harold M. Anderson	307,138		\$ 1.56

**Transactions Between the Company and the Purchaser Group Members**

As described below, the Company has entered into certain transactions in the ordinary course of business with certain entities affiliated with Charles C. Anderson, Terrence C. Anderson, Joel R. Anderson, Harold M. Anderson, Charles C. Anderson, Jr., and Clyde B. Anderson.

The Company purchases a portion of its in-store merchandise from a subsidiary of Anderson Media Corporation ( Anderson Media ). During fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, purchases of these items from Anderson Media totaled \$19.5 million and \$17.5 million, respectively. During fiscal 2016, purchases of these items from Anderson Media have totaled approximately \$6.2 million.

The Company purchases certain of its collectibles, gifts and books from Anderson Press, Inc. ( Anderson Press ). During fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, such purchases from Anderson Press totaled \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million, respectively. During fiscal 2016, these purchases have totaled approximately \$0.2 million.

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**Table of Contents**

The Company utilizes import sourcing and consolidation services from Anco Far East Importers Limited ( Anco Far East ). The total amount paid to Anco Far East was \$1.9 million and \$1.6 million for fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, respectively. During fiscal 2016, the Company has paid approximately \$0.8 million to Anco Far East.

The Company leases its principal executive offices from a trust, which was established for the benefit of the grandchildren of Charles C. Anderson. The lease was renewed on June 1, 2014 and will end on May 31, 2024. During fiscal 2015, the Company paid annual rent of approximately \$0.1 million to the trust under this lease and paid rent of approximately \$0.2 million in fiscal 2014. During fiscal 2016, the Company has paid rent to the trust of approximately \$45,000.

Anderson & Anderson LLC ( A&A ) also leases two buildings to the Company. During each of fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, the Company paid A&A a total of \$0.4 million in connection with such leases. The total of minimum future rental payments under all of these related party leases was \$2.0 million at January 31, 2015. During fiscal 2016, the Company has paid A&A a total of approximately \$0.2 million in connection with such leases.

The Company also subleases a portion of its leased corporate office space in Birmingham, Alabama to Anderson Growth Partners. During fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, the Company received approximately \$0.1 million in rental payments from Anderson Growth Partners. Total future minimum rent payments to the Company under this lease were \$0.7 million as of January 31, 2015.

Until December 2014 the Company, A&A, American Promotional Events, Inc., Anderson Growth Partners and Anderson Press (collectively the Co-ownership Group ) co-owned two airplanes that were used by the Company in its business, with the Company owning a 19.7% interest in these airplanes. During the thirteen weeks ended May 3, 2014, the Company was billed \$0.1 million by the Co-ownership Group under a cost sharing arrangement for the Company s use of the airplanes. The expenses that the Company pays for airplane use cover all of the variable costs attributable to the Company s use of the planes and a portion of the fixed costs. Additionally, in conjunction with the acquisition of one of the previously mentioned airplanes, on July 31, 2013, the Company, along with other members of the Co-ownership Group, entered into a promissory note with Aircraft SPE 2013, LLC for the purpose of repaying the indebtedness incurred by Aircraft SPE 2013, LLC for the acquisition of the airplane. The original principal amount of the Company s note was \$0.6 million that matures on September 1, 2018, and the outstanding balance as of May 2, 2015 was approximately \$560 thousand. The note bears interest equal to the thirty-day LIBOR rate plus 2.75%. The Company is required to make periodic payments of principal and interest over the term of the loan, with interest calculated as if the loan were outstanding over a 15 years term, with a balloon payment for any remaining principal and interest balance at the September 1, 2018 maturity date. In December 2014, the Co-ownership Group determined to sell the two airplanes. One was sold by the Co-ownership Group in December 2014, and the second was sold in March 2015. On January 26, 2015, the Co-ownership Group entered into a reverse 1031 exchange transaction, whereby the Co-ownership Group used the airplane sale proceeds and additional proceeds contributed by A&A to purchase a new airplane. As a result of the completion of the 1031 exchange, the Company now owns a 20.892% interest in the new airplane. During the thirteen weeks ended May 2, 2015, the Company was billed \$0.1 million by the Co-ownership Group under a cost sharing arrangement for the Company s use of the new airplane.

The Company and Anderson Private Capital Partners I, L.P. ( APCP ) each held a 50% ownership interest in Yogurt Mountain as of February 1, 2014. On December 23, 2014, the Company acquired an additional 0.1% of Yogurt Mountain from APCP.

The Company and Anco Far East have equity interests in IF, an established trade gift supplier of innovative gifts and book accessories to retailers in over 70 countries worldwide, of 25% and 45%, respectively. During fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, the Company had purchased items from IF in the amount of \$1.0 million and \$0.5 million, respectively.

During the first quarter of 2016, the Company had purchased items from IF in the amount of \$315,083.

**Table of Contents**

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2014, the Company sold units of limited liability company interests ( units ) of its Preferred Growth Properties subsidiary to Terrance G. Finley, R. Todd Noden and James F. Turner. Mr. Finley purchased 40 units for \$0.4 million, Mr. Noden purchased 20 units for \$0.2 million and Mr. Turner purchased 20 units for \$0.2 million. Such units, along with units purchased by a non-executive officer of the Company who is not a Purchaser Group Member, equated to a 5.1% interest in Preferred Growth Properties, with the Company owning the remaining 94.9% of Preferred Growth Properties.

***Transactions between the Directors and Executive Officers of the Company and the Purchaser Group Members***

As described below, over the past two years, certain members of the Anderson Family have entered into transactions with Clyde B. Anderson, the Company's Executive Chairman and a director of the Company, and Terrence C. Anderson, a director of the Company.

***Transactions between Charles C. Anderson and Clyde B. Anderson***

In 2013 and 2014, Charles C. Anderson sold Clyde B. Anderson securities in certain entities affiliated with the Anderson Family, including the Company (as disclosed in more detail in *-Transactions in Common Stock.* ), for total consideration of approximately \$2.3 million.

On December 26, 2013, Charles C. Anderson received from Clyde B. Anderson approximately \$1.6 million for payment of a note receivable that had originated on December 19, 2012.

***Transactions between Joel R. Anderson and Clyde B. Anderson***

In 2014, Joel R. Anderson sold Clyde B. Anderson securities in certain entities affiliated with the Anderson Family for total consideration of approximately \$2.0 million.

***Transactions between Charles C. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson***

In 2013 and 2014, Charles C. Anderson sold Terrence C. Anderson securities in certain entities affiliated with the Anderson Family, including the Company (as disclosed in more detail in *-Transactions in Common Stock.* ), for total consideration of approximately \$0.9 million.

***Transactions between Joel R. Anderson and Terrence C. Anderson***

In 2014, Joel R. Anderson sold Terrence C. Anderson securities in certain entities affiliated with the Anderson Family for total consideration of approximately \$1.7 million.

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Table of Contents

**RIGHTS OF APPRAISAL**

This section summarizes certain material provisions of Delaware law pertaining to appraisal rights. This summary, however, is not a complete statement of all applicable requirements, and it is qualified in its entirety by reference to Section 262 of the DGCL (which we refer to as Section 262), the full text of which appears in Annex C to this proxy statement. The following summary does not constitute any legal or other advice, nor does it constitute a recommendation that stockholders exercise their appraisal rights under Section 262.

Under Section 262, record holders of shares who have neither voted in favor of, nor consented in writing to, the approval of the adoption of the Merger Agreement, who continuously hold such shares from the date of making a demand for appraisal through the effective time of the Merger and who otherwise follow the procedures set forth in Section 262 will be entitled to have their shares appraised by the Delaware Court of Chancery and to receive payment in cash of the fair value of such shares, exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the Merger, as determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery, together with interest, if any, to be paid upon the amount determined to be fair value. The fair value of your shares as determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery may be more or less than, or the same as, the \$3.25 per share of Common Stock that you are otherwise entitled to receive under the terms of the Merger Agreement. Strict compliance with the statutory procedures in Section 262 is required.

Section 262 requires that, where a merger agreement is to be submitted for adoption at a meeting of stockholders, the corporation must, not less than 20 days before the meeting, notify each stockholder who was a stockholder on the record date set by the Board for notice of such meeting (or if no such record date is set, on the close of business on the day next preceding the day on which notice is given), with respect to such shares for which appraisal rights are available, that appraisal rights will be available. A copy of Section 262 must be included with such notice. This proxy statement constitutes the Company's notice to our stockholders that appraisal rights are available in connection with the Merger, in compliance with the requirements of Section 262. A copy of Section 262 is attached to this document as Annex C.

**ANY STOCKHOLDER WHO WISHES TO EXERCISE APPRAISAL RIGHTS, OR WHO WISHES TO PRESERVE SUCH STOCKHOLDER'S RIGHT TO DO SO, SHOULD CAREFULLY REVIEW THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION AND ANNEX D BECAUSE FAILURE TO TIMELY AND PROPERLY COMPLY WITH THE PROCEDURES SPECIFIED WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF APPRAISAL RIGHTS. MOREOVER, BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROCEDURES FOR EXERCISING THE RIGHT TO SEEK APPRAISAL OF SHARES, THE COMPANY BELIEVES THAT, IF A STOCKHOLDER CONSIDERS EXERCISING SUCH APPRAISAL RIGHTS, SUCH STOCKHOLDER SHOULD SEEK THE ADVICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL.**

If you elect to exercise your appraisal rights, you must deliver to the Company a written demand for appraisal of your shares before the vote is taken to adopt the Merger Agreement. That demand must be executed by or on behalf of the stockholder of record and will be sufficient if it reasonably informs us of the identity of the holder of record of our shares and the intention of such stockholder to demand appraisal of his, her or its shares. Holders of our shares who desire to exercise their appraisal rights must not vote or submit a proxy in favor of adoption of the Merger Agreement, nor consent thereto in writing. Voting against or failing to vote for adoption of the Merger Agreement by itself does not constitute a demand for appraisal within the meaning of Section 262. The written demand for appraisal must be in addition to and separate from any proxy or vote regarding adoption of the Merger Agreement.

A holder of record of shares wishing to exercise appraisal rights must hold of record the shares on the date the written demand for appraisal is made and must continue to hold the shares of record through the effective time of the Merger.

If you fail to comply with these conditions and the Merger is completed, you will be entitled to receive payment for your shares as provided for in the Merger Agreement, but you will have no appraisal



**Table of Contents**

rights with respect to your shares. A proxy card that is submitted and does not contain voting instructions and a proxy submitted by telephone or through the Internet that does not contain voting instructions, will, unless revoked, be voted in favor of adoption of the Merger Agreement, and it will constitute a waiver of the stockholder's right of appraisal and will nullify any previously delivered written demand for appraisal. Therefore, a stockholder who submits a proxy and who wishes to exercise appraisal rights must either submit a proxy containing instructions to vote against adoption of the Merger Agreement or abstain from voting. However, neither voting against the adoption of the Merger Agreement, nor abstaining from voting or failing to vote, will in and of itself constitute a written demand for appraisal satisfying the requirements of Section 262. All demands for appraisal should be sent or delivered to:

Books-A-Million

Attn: Corporate Secretary

121 West Park Drive

Birmingham, Alabama 35211

A demand for appraisal in respect of shares should be executed by or on behalf of the holder of record of such shares, fully and correctly, as the holder's name appears on the holder's stock certificates, should specify the holder's name and state that the person intends thereby to demand appraisal of the holder's shares in connection with the Merger. The demand for appraisal cannot be made by the beneficial owner if he, she or it does not also hold the shares of record. The beneficial holder must, in such cases, have the record owner, such as a bank, broker or other nominee, submit the required demand for appraisal in respect of those shares. **If you hold your shares through a bank, brokerage firm or other nominee and you wish to exercise appraisal rights, you should consult with your bank, broker or other nominee to determine the appropriate procedures for the making of a demand for appraisal by the nominee.**

If shares are owned of record by a person other than the beneficial owner, including a broker, fiduciary (such as a trustee, guardian or custodian) or other nominee, a demand for appraisal must be executed by or for such record holder. If the shares are owned of record by more than one person, as in a joint tenancy or tenancy in common, the demand should be executed by or for all joint owners. An authorized agent, including an authorized agent for two or more joint owners, may execute the demand for appraisal for a stockholder of record; however, the agent must identify the record holder or owners and expressly disclose the fact that, in executing the demand, such agent is acting as agent for the record holder. If a stockholder holds shares through a broker who in turn holds the shares through a central securities depository nominee such as Cede & Co. (the nominee for The Depository Trust Company), a demand for appraisal of such shares must be made by or on behalf of the depository nominee and must identify the depository nominee as a record holder. A record holder, such as a broker, who holds shares as a nominee for others, may exercise his, her or its right of appraisal with respect to the shares held for one or more beneficial owners, while not exercising this right for other beneficial owners. In that case, the written demand should state the number of shares as to which appraisal is sought. Where no number of shares is expressly mentioned, the demand will be presumed to cover all shares in the name of the record holder.

Within 10 days after the effective time of the Merger, the surviving corporation in the Merger must give notice of the date that the Merger has become effective to each of our stockholders who did not vote in favor of or consent to the adoption of the Merger Agreement and otherwise complied with Section 262. At any time within 60 days after the effective time, any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined a proceeding as a named party shall have the right to withdraw such stockholder's demand for appraisal and accept the Merger Consideration for that stockholder's shares of Common Stock by delivering to the surviving corporation a written withdrawal of the demand for appraisal. However, any such attempt to withdraw the demand made more than 60 days after the effective

time will require written approval of the surviving corporation. Unless the demand is properly withdrawn by the stockholder within 60 days after the effective time, no appraisal proceeding in the Delaware Court of Chancery will be dismissed as to any stockholder without the approval of the Delaware Court of Chancery, and such approval may be conditioned upon such terms as the Court deems just. If the surviving corporation does not approve a request to withdraw a demand for appraisal

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**Table of Contents**

when that approval is required, or if the Delaware Court of Chancery does not approve the dismissal of an appraisal proceeding, the stockholder will be entitled to receive only the appraised value determined in any such appraisal proceeding, which value could be less than, equal to or more than the consideration offered pursuant to the Merger Agreement.

Within 120 days after the effective time, but not thereafter, either the surviving corporation or any stockholder who has complied with the requirements of Section 262 and is entitled to appraisal rights under Section 262 may commence an appraisal proceeding by filing a petition in the Delaware Court of Chancery demanding a determination of the fair value of the shares held by all such stockholders. Upon the filing of such a petition by a stockholder, service of a copy of such petition shall be made upon the surviving corporation. Parent has no present intent to cause the Company to file such a petition and has no obligation to cause such a petition to be filed, and holders should not assume that the surviving corporation will file a petition. Accordingly, it is the obligation of the stockholders who have complied with the requirements of Section 262 to initiate all necessary action to perfect their appraisal rights, and the failure of a stockholder to file such a petition within the period specified could nullify the stockholder's previous written demand for appraisal. In addition, within 120 days after the effective time, any stockholder who has properly filed a written demand for appraisal, who has complied with the requirements for exercise of appraisal rights under Section 262, upon written request, will be entitled to receive from the surviving corporation, a statement setting forth the aggregate number of shares not voted in favor of adoption of the Merger Agreement and with respect to which demands for appraisal have been received and the aggregate number of holders of such shares of Common Stock. The statement must be mailed within 10 days after such written request has been received by the surviving corporation or within 10 days after the expiration of the period for delivery of demand for appraisal under Section 262, whichever is later. A person who is the beneficial owner of shares of Common Stock held either in a voting trust or by a nominee on behalf of such person may, in such person's own name, file a petition or request to receive from the surviving corporation such statement.

If a petition for appraisal is duly filed and a copy of the petition is served upon the surviving corporation, then the surviving corporation will be obligated, within 20 days after such service, to file in the Delaware Register in Chancery a duly verified list containing the names and addresses of all stockholders who have demanded payment for their shares and with whom agreements as to the value of their shares have not been reached by the surviving corporation. After notice to stockholders who have demanded appraisal, if such notice is ordered by the Delaware Court of Chancery, the Delaware Court of Chancery is empowered to conduct a hearing upon the petition and to determine those stockholders who have complied with Section 262 and who have become entitled to the appraisal rights provided by Section 262. The Delaware Court of Chancery may require stockholders who have demanded appraisal of their shares to submit their stock certificates to the Register in Chancery for notation thereon of the pendency of the appraisal proceedings; and if any stockholder fails to comply with that direction, the Delaware Court of Chancery may dismiss the proceedings as to that stockholder.

After the Delaware Court of Chancery determines the stockholders entitled to appraisal of their shares, the appraisal proceeding shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Delaware Court of Chancery, including any rules specifically governing appraisal proceedings. Through such proceeding the Court shall determine the fair value of the shares, exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the Merger, together with interest, if any, to be paid upon the amount determined to be the fair value. When the value is determined, the Delaware Court of Chancery will direct the payment of such value, with interest thereon accrued during the pendency of the proceeding, if the Court so determines, to stockholders entitled to receive the same, upon surrender by those stockholders of the certificates representing their shares or, in the case of holders of uncertificated shares, forthwith. Unless the Court in its discretion determines otherwise for good cause shown, interest from the effective date of the Merger through the date of payment of the judgment will be compounded quarterly and will accrue at 5% over the Federal Reserve discount rate (including any surcharge) as established from time to time during the period between

the effective date of the Merger and the date of payment of the judgment.

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**Table of Contents**

You should be aware that an investment banking opinion as to fairness from a financial point of view of the consideration payable in a sales transaction, such as the Merger, is not an opinion as to, and does not otherwise address, fair value under Section 262. Although we believe that the Merger Consideration is fair, no representation is made as to the outcome of the appraisal of fair value as determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery and stockholders should recognize that such an appraisal could result in a determination of a value higher or lower than, or the same as, the Merger Consideration. Moreover, we do not anticipate offering more than the Merger Consideration to any stockholder exercising appraisal rights and reserve the right to assert, in any appraisal proceeding, that, for purposes of Section 262, the fair value of a share is less than the Merger Consideration.

In determining the fair value of the shares, a Delaware Court is required to take into account all relevant factors. In *Weinberger v. UOP, Inc.*, the Delaware Supreme Court discussed the factors that could be considered in determining fair value in an appraisal proceeding, stating that proof of value by any techniques or methods which are generally considered acceptable in the financial community and otherwise admissible in court should be considered and that [f]air price obviously requires consideration of all relevant factors involving the value of a company. The Delaware Supreme Court has stated that, in making this determination of fair value, the court must consider market value, asset value, dividends, earnings prospects, the nature of the enterprise and any other facts that were known or that could be ascertained as of the date of the Merger which throw any light on future prospects of the merged corporation. Section 262 provides that fair value is to be exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the Merger. In *Cede & Co. v. Technicolor, Inc.*, the Delaware Supreme Court stated that such exclusion is a narrow exclusion [that] does not encompass known elements of value, but which rather applies only to the speculative elements of value arising from such accomplishment or expectation. In *Weinberger*, the Delaware Supreme Court also stated that elements of future value, including the nature of the enterprise, which are known or susceptible of proof as of the date of the Merger and not the product of speculation, may be considered.

Costs of the appraisal proceeding (which do not include attorneys' fees or the fees and expenses of experts) may be determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery and taxed upon the parties as the Court deems equitable under the circumstances. Each stockholder seeking appraisal is responsible for his, her or its attorneys' and expert witness expenses, although, upon the application of a stockholder, the Delaware Court of Chancery may order all or a portion of the expenses incurred by any stockholder in connection with the appraisal proceeding, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and the fees and expenses of experts used in the appraisal proceeding, to be charged pro rata against the value of all shares entitled to appraisal.

Any stockholder who duly demanded appraisal in compliance with Section 262 will not, after the effective date of the Merger, be entitled to vote shares subject to that demand for any purpose or to receive payments of dividends or any other distribution with respect to those shares, other than with respect to payment of dividends or distributions payable to stockholders of record as of a date prior to the effective time. However, if no petition for appraisal is filed within 120 days after the effective time, or if the stockholder otherwise fails to perfect his, her or its appraisal rights, successfully withdraws his, her or its demand for appraisal or loses his, her or its right to appraisal, then the right of that stockholder to appraisal will cease and that stockholder's shares will be deemed to have been converted at the effective date of the Merger into the right to receive the Merger Consideration without interest, pursuant to the Merger Agreement. As indicated above, in certain circumstances a stockholder may withdraw his, her or its demand for appraisal in accordance with Section 262 and accept the Merger Consideration offered pursuant to the Merger Agreement.

**Table of Contents****DELISTING AND DEREGISTRATION OF COMMON STOCK**

If the Merger is completed, the Company's shares of Common Stock will be delisted from the NASDAQ and deregistered under the Exchange Act. As a result, we would no longer file periodic reports with the SEC on account of the shares of Common Stock.

**ADVISORY VOTE ON MERGER RELATED COMPENSATION**

In accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, the Company is providing its stockholders with the opportunity to cast an advisory (non-binding) vote on the compensation that may be paid or become payable to its named executive officers in connection with the Merger. The following table and accompanying narrative provide the information about that compensation that is required to be disclosed and subject to the advisory vote pursuant to SEC rules. Pursuant to the SEC rules, the disclosure provided below includes compensation to the named executive officers, whether present, deferred or contingent, that is based on or otherwise relates to the Merger.

**Golden Parachute Compensation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>Equity (1)</b>	<b>Pension/NQDC</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Clyde B. Anderson		\$ 1,037,738			
Terrance G. Finley		\$ 691,824			
R. Todd Noden		\$ 817,463			
James F. Turner		\$ 394,898			

(1) This column captures the value of the shares of Common Stock subject to restricted stock awards granted under the Company Equity Plan that will vest and become free of restrictions upon consummation of the Merger.

*Restricted Common Stock*

Each share of Common Stock subject to restricted stock awards granted under the Company Equity Plan and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time will vest and become free of restrictions and be eligible to receive the Merger Consideration, without interest, in the same manner as other shares of Common Stock, except that the Merger Consideration paid to such holders will be subject to any required withholding taxes, and will be paid by the surviving corporation.

**Advisory Vote**

As required by Section 14A of the Exchange Act, the Company is asking its stockholders to vote on the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the compensation that may be paid or become payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger, as disclosed in the above table entitled "Golden Parachute Compensation," including the associated narrative discussion, is hereby APPROVED.

The vote on executive compensation payable in connection with the Merger is a vote separate and apart from the vote to adopt the Merger Agreement. Accordingly, you may vote to approve the executive compensation and vote against adoption of the Merger Agreement, or vice versa. Because the vote is advisory in nature only, it will not be binding on

either the Company or Parent. Accordingly, because the Company is contractually obligated to pay the compensation, the compensation will be payable, subject only to the conditions applicable thereto, if the Merger is approved and consummated and regardless of the outcome of the advisory vote.

**Table of Contents**

Approval of the advisory resolution on executive compensation payable to the Company's named executive officers in connection with the Merger requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the subject matter. Proxies received but marked as abstentions will be considered a vote AGAINST this proposal. The Board (without Clyde B. Anderson's or Terrence C. Anderson's participation) recommends a vote FOR this proposal.



**Table of Contents**

**SUBMISSION OF STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS**

If the Merger is completed, we will not hold an annual meeting of stockholders in 2016 prior to its completion. If the Merger is not completed, you will continue to be entitled to attend and participate in our annual meetings of stockholders, and we will hold a 2016 annual meeting of stockholders, in which case we will provide notice of or otherwise publicly disclose the date on which such 2016 annual meeting will be held. If the 2016 meeting is held prior to the completion of the Merger, stockholder proposals will be eligible for consideration for inclusion in the proxy statement and form of proxy for our 2016 annual meeting of stockholders in accordance with Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act and our Code of Regulations, as described below.

Any proposal that a stockholder may desire to have included in the Company's proxy materials for presentation at the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act must be received by the Company at its executive offices at 402 Industrial Lane, Birmingham, Alabama 35211, Attention: Mr. Clyde B. Anderson, on or prior to January 2, 2016. A stockholder must notify the Company before March 17, 2016 of a proposal for the 2016 annual meeting which the stockholder intends to present other than by inclusion in our proxy materials. Any such proposal received after March 17, 2016 will be considered untimely for purposes of the 2016 annual meeting, and proxies delivered for the 2016 annual meeting will confer discretionary authority to vote on any such matters.

**Table of Contents****IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE PURCHASER GROUP MEMBERS, PARENT AND SUB**

Set forth below are the names, the current principal occupations or employment, telephone number and the name, principal business, and address of any corporation or other organization in which such occupation or employment is conducted and the five-year employment history of each of the Purchaser Group Members, Parent and Sub. During the past five years, none of the persons or entities described have been (i) convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations or similar misdemeanors) or (ii) party to any judicial or administrative proceeding (except for matters that were dismissed without sanction or settlement) that resulted in a judgment, decree or final order enjoining the person from future violations of, or prohibiting activities subject to, federal or state securities laws, or a finding of any violation of federal or state securities laws. Each person identified is a United States citizen.

*Natural Person Purchaser Group Members*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Business Address and Telephone</b>	<b>Employment History</b>
Charles C. Anderson	202 North Court Street, Florence, Alabama 35630  (256) 766-3824	Over the past five years, Charles C. Anderson has been the Managing Partner of Anderson & Anderson, LLC. His principal business is real estate management.
Hilda B. Anderson	c/o Abroms & Associates 201 South Court Street, Suite 610 Florence, Alabama 35630  (256) 767-0740	Over the past five years, Hilda B. Anderson has been a homemaker.
Joel R. Anderson	202 North Court Street Florence, Alabama 35630  (256) 766-3824	Over the past five years, Joel R. Anderson has been General Partner of Anderson & Anderson, LLC. His principal business is real estate management.
Terrence C. Anderson	4511 Helton Drive Florence, Alabama 35630  (256) 284-1005	Over the past five years, Terrence C. Anderson has been Chief Executive Officer of American Promotional Events, Inc. His principal business is pyrotechnics retailing.
Clyde B. Anderson	2801 Highway 280 South, Suite 350 Birmingham, Alabama 35223  (205) 909-0951	Over the past five years, Clyde B. Anderson has been Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Books-A-Million, Inc. His principal business is book retailing and real estate development and management.
Ashley Ruth Anderson	202 North Court Street	Over the past five years, Ashley Ruth Anderson has

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Florence, Alabama 35630

(256) 766-3824

been Inventory Manager of JRA, LLC. Her principal business is numismatics.

Charles C. Anderson, Jr. 265 Brookview Town Centre Way,  
Suite 501

Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

(865) 584-9765

Over the past five years, Charles C. Anderson, Jr. has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Anderson Media Corporation. His principal business is the wholesale distribution of periodicals, books and pre-recorded music.

**Table of Contents**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Business Address and Telephone</b>	<b>Employment History</b>
Harold M. Anderson	3101 Clairmont Road, Suite C Atlanta, Georgia 30329 (256) 246-1200	Over the past five years, Harold M. Anderson has been Chief Executive Officer of Anderson Press, Inc. and Chief Executive Officer of CRG Holding, Inc. His principal businesses are specialty publishing and the design, publication, marketing and distribution of picture frames, premium albums, memory products and paper goods for sale to specialty and mass-market retailers.
Kayrita Anderson	3101 Clairmont Road, Suite C Atlanta, Georgia 30329 (256) 246-1200	Over the past five years, Kayrita Anderson has been a homemaker.
Charles C. Anderson, III	5/F Lippon Leighton Tower 103-109 Leighton Road Causeway Bay, Hong Kong +852 28823123	Over the past five years, Charles C. Anderson, III has been a Purchasing Specialist for Anderson Management Services, Inc. His principal business is to perform management services for Anderson Media Corporation and certain of its merchandising and operating companies.
Hayley Anderson Milam	c/o Abroms & Associates 201 South Court Street, Suite 610 Florence, Alabama 35630 (256) 767-0740	Over the past five years, Hayley Anderson Milam has been a homemaker.
Terrance G. Finley	402 Industrial Lane Birmingham, Alabama 35211 (205) 942-3737	See Important Information Regarding Books-A-Million-Directors and Officers beginning on page [ ].
R. Todd Noden	402 Industrial Lane Birmingham, Alabama 35211 (205) 942-3737	See Important Information Regarding Books-A-Million-Directors and Officers beginning on page [ ].
James F. Turner	402 Industrial Lane Birmingham, Alabama 35211 (205) 942-3737	See Important Information Regarding Books-A-Million-Directors and Officers beginning on page [ ].

**Entity Purchaser Group Members**

<b>Entity Name</b>	<b>Business Address and Telephone</b>	<b>Background</b>
Anderson BAMB Holdings, LLC	201 South Court Street, Suite 610 Florence, Alabama 35630 (256) 767-0740	Anderson BAMB Holdings, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company. The directors of Anderson BAMB Holdings, LLC are Charles C. Anderson, Joel R. Anderson, Charles C. Anderson, Jr., Terrence C. Anderson and Clyde B. Anderson.

**Table of Contents**

<b>Entity Name</b>	<b>Business Address and Telephone</b>	<b>Background</b>
The Ashley Anderson Trust	<p><i>The Ashley Anderson Trust</i></p> <p>c/o Abroms &amp; Associates</p> <p>201 South Court Street, Suite 610</p> <p>Florence, Alabama 35630</p> <p>(256) 767-0740</p>	<p>The Ashley Anderson Trust is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Alabama. The trustee of The Ashley Anderson Trust is Cumberland Trust and Investment Company, and the co-trustee of the trust is Ashley Ruth</p>
	<p><i>Cumberland Trust and Investment Company</i></p> <p>40 Burton Hills Boulevard, Suite 300</p> <p>Nashville, Tennessee 37215</p> <p>(615) 783-2540</p>	<p>Anderson. The business address of Cumberland Trust and Investment Company is 40 Burton Hills Boulevard, Suite 300, Nashville, Tennessee 37215.</p>
Lauren A. Anderson Irrevocable Trust	<p>c/o Abroms &amp; Associates</p> <p>201 South Court Street, Suite 610</p> <p>Florence, Alabama 35630</p> <p>(256) 767-0740</p>	<p>The Lauren A. Anderson Irrevocable Trust is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is Martin R. Abroms.</p>
Olivia Barbour 1995 Trust	<p>c/o Abroms &amp; Associates</p> <p>201 South Court Street, Suite 610</p> <p>Florence, Alabama 35630</p> <p>(256) 767-0740</p>	<p>The Olivia Barbour 1995 Trust is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Alabama. The Trustee is Terrence C. Anderson.</p>
Alexandra Ruth Anderson Irrevocable Trust	<p>c/o Abroms &amp; Associates</p> <p>201 South Court Street, Suite 610</p> <p>Florence, Alabama 35630</p> <p>(256) 767-0740</p>	<p>The Alexandra Ruth Anderson Irrevocable Trust is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Alabama. The Trustee is Charles C. Anderson.</p>

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First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust      *First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust*      First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust  
*FBO Charles C. Anderson, III*

FBO Charles C. Anderson, III

FBO Charles C. Anderson, III is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.

c/o Abroms & Associates  
201 South Court Street, Suite 610  
Florence, Alabama 35630  
(256) 767-0740

*SunTrust Delaware Trust Company*

1101 Centre Road, Suite 108  
Wilmington, Delaware 19805  
(302) 892-9930

First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust      *First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust*  
*FBO Hayley E. Anderson*

FBO Hayley E. Anderson

First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust  
FBO Hayley E. Anderson is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.

c/o Abroms & Associates  
201 South Court Street, Suite 610  
Florence, Alabama 35630  
(256) 767-0740

*SunTrust Delaware Trust Company*

1101 Centre Road, Suite 108  
Wilmington, Delaware 19805  
(302) 892-9930





**Table of Contents**

<b>Entity Name</b>	<b>Business Address and Telephone</b>	<b>Background</b>
First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust	<i>First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust FBO Lauren A. Anderson</i>	First Anderson Grandchildren s Trust
FBO Lauren A. Anderson	c/o Abroms & Associates  201 South Court Street, Suite 610  Florence, Alabama 35630  (256) 767-0740	FBO Lauren A. Anderson is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.
	<i>SunTrust Delaware Trust Company</i>	
	1101 Centre Road, Suite 108  Wilmington, Delaware 19805  (302) 892-9930	
Second Anderson Grandchildren s Trust	<i>Second Anderson Grandchildren s Trust FBO Alexandra R. Anderson</i>	Second Anderson Grandchildren s Trust
FBO Alexandra R. Anderson	c/o Abroms & Associates  201 South Court Street, Suite 610  Florence, Alabama 35630  (256) 767-0740	FBO Alexandra R. Anderson is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.
	<i>SunTrust Delaware Trust Company</i>	
	1101 Centre Road, Suite 108  Wilmington, Delaware 19805	

(302) 892-9930

Third Anderson Grandchildren s Trust

*Third Anderson Grandchildren s Trust  
FBO Taylor C. Anderson*

Third Anderson Grandchildren s Trust

FBO Taylor C. Anderson

FBO Taylor C. Anderson is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.

c/o Abroms & Associates

201 South Court Street, Suite 610

Florence, Alabama 35630

(256) 767-0740

*SunTrust Delaware Trust Company*

1101 Centre Road, Suite 108

Wilmington, Delaware 19805

(302) 892-9930

Fourth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust

*Fourth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust  
FBO Carson C. Anderson*

Fourth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust

FBO Carson C. Anderson

FBO Carson C. Anderson is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.

c/o Abroms & Associates

201 South Court Street, Suite 610

Florence, Alabama 35630

(256) 767-0740

*SunTrust Delaware Trust Company*

1101 Centre Road, Suite 108

Wilmington, Delaware 19805

(302) 892-9930



**Table of Contents**

<b>Entity Name</b>	<b>Business Address and Telephone</b>	<b>Background</b>
<p>Fifth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust</p> <p>FBO Harold M. Anderson</p>	<p><i>Fifth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust</i>  <i>FBO Harold M. Anderson</i></p> <p>c/o Abroms &amp; Associates</p> <p>201 South Court Street, Suite 610</p> <p>Florence, Alabama 35630</p> <p>(256) 767-0740</p> <p><i>SunTrust Delaware Trust Company</i></p> <p>1101 Centre Road, Suite 108</p> <p>Wilmington, Delaware 19805</p> <p>(302) 892-9930</p>	<p>Fifth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust</p> <p>FBO Harold M. Anderson is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.</p>
<p>Sixth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust</p> <p>FBO Bentley B. Anderson</p>	<p><i>Sixth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust</i>  <i>FBO Bentley B. Anderson</i></p> <p>c/o Abroms &amp; Associates</p> <p>201 South Court Street, Suite 610</p> <p>Florence, Alabama 35630</p> <p>(256) 767-0740</p> <p><i>SunTrust Delaware Trust Company</i></p> <p>1101 Centre Road, Suite 108</p> <p>Wilmington, Delaware 19805</p>	<p>Sixth Anderson Grandchildren s Trust</p> <p>FBO Bentley B. Anderson is a trust formed under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trustee is SunTrust Delaware Trust Company.</p>

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The Charles C. Anderson Family Foundation	c/o Abroms & Associates 201 South Court Street, Suite 610 Florence, Alabama 35630	Charles C. Anderson is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Charles C. Anderson Family Foundation.
	(256) 767-0740	
The Joel R. Anderson Family Foundation	c/o Abroms & Associates 201 South Court Street, Suite 610 Florence, Alabama 35630	Joel R. Anderson is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Joel R. Anderson Family Foundation.
	(256) 767-0740	
The Clyde and Summer Anderson Foundation	c/o Abroms & Associates 201 South Court Street, Suite 610 Florence, Alabama 35630	Clyde B. Anderson is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Clyde and Summer Anderson Foundation.
	(256) 767-0740	
Parent	2801 Highway 280 South, Suite 350 Birmingham, Alabama 35223	Clyde B. Anderson is the sole director and officer of Parent.
	(205) 909-0951	
Sub	2801 Highway 280 South, Suite 350 Birmingham, Alabama 35223	Clyde B. Anderson is the sole director and officer of Sub.
	(205) 909-0951	

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**Table of Contents**

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act. Those filings are available to the public from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room in Washington D.C. located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington D.C. 20549. You may also obtain copies of any document filed by us at prescribed rates by writing to the Public Reference Section of the SEC at that address. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Information about us, including our filings, is also available on our website at <http://www.booksamillioninc.com/secfilings.html>. The information contained on or accessible through our website is not part of this proxy statement, other than the documents that we file with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this proxy statement.

Because the Merger is a going private transaction, the Company, Parent, Sub and the Purchaser Group Members have filed with the SEC a Transaction Statement on Schedule 13E-3 with respect to the Merger. The Schedule 13E-3, including any amendments and exhibits filed or incorporated by reference as a part of it, is available for inspection as set forth above. The Schedule 13E-3 will be amended to report promptly any material change in the information set forth in the most recent Schedule 13E-3 filed with the SEC.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this proxy statement documents we file with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this proxy statement and, with respect to this proxy statement but not with respect to the Schedule 13E-3, later information that we file with the SEC will update and supersede that information. Information in documents that is deemed, in accordance with SEC rules, to be furnished and not filed is not deemed to be incorporated by reference into this proxy statement. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and, with respect to this proxy statement but not with respect to the Schedule 13E-3, any documents filed by us pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this proxy statement and prior to the date of the special meeting:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended January 31, 2015;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended May 2, 2015 and

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on May 29, 2015, July 14, 2015 and July 17, 2015.

We will amend the Schedule 13E-3 to incorporate by reference any additional documents that we may file with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this proxy statement and prior to the date of the special meeting to the extent required to fulfill our obligations under the Exchange Act.

No persons have been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this proxy statement and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by us or any other person. This proxy statement is dated [ ], 2015. You should not assume that the information contained in this proxy statement is accurate as of any date other than that date, and the mailing of this proxy statement to stockholders will not create any implication to the contrary.

