

DOLLAR GENERAL CORP
Form DEF 14A
April 02, 2015

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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 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

Dollar General Corporation

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

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- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
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Dollar General Corporation
100 Mission Ridge
Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072

Dear Shareholder:

The 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Dollar General Corporation will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., Central Time, at Goodlettsville City Hall Auditorium, 105 South Main Street, Goodlettsville, Tennessee. All shareholders of record at the close of business on March 19, 2015 are invited to attend the annual meeting. For security reasons, however, to gain admission to the meeting you may be required to present photo identification and comply with other security measures.

At this year's meeting, you will have an opportunity to vote on the matters described in our accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders and Proxy Statement. Our 2014 Annual Report and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2015 also accompany this letter.

Your interest in Dollar General and your vote are very important to us. We encourage you to read the Proxy Statement and vote your proxy as soon as possible so your vote can be represented at the annual meeting. You may vote your proxy via the Internet or telephone, or if you received a paper copy of the proxy materials by mail, you may vote by mail by completing and returning a proxy card.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of Dollar General.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rick Dreiling

Rick Dreiling
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

April 2, 2015

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Dollar General Corporation
100 Mission Ridge
Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

DATE: Wednesday, May 27, 2015

TIME: 9:00 a.m., Central Time

PLACE: Goodlettsville City Hall Auditorium
105 South Main Street
Goodlettsville, Tennessee

- ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**
- 1) To elect as directors the 8 nominees listed in the proxy statement
 - 2) To ratify the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2015
 - 3) To transact any other business that may properly come before the annual meeting and any adjournments of that meeting

WHO MAY VOTE: Shareholders of record at the close of business on March 19, 2015

By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Christine L. Connolly

Goodlettsville, Tennessee
April 2, 2015

Christine L. Connolly
Corporate Secretary

Please vote your proxy as soon as possible even if you expect to attend the annual meeting in person. You may vote your proxy via the Internet or by phone by following the instructions on the notice of internet availability or proxy card, or if you received a paper copy of these proxy materials by mail, you may vote by mail by completing and returning the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed reply envelope. No postage is necessary if the proxy is mailed within the United States. You may revoke your proxy by following the instructions listed on page 3 of the proxy statement.

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Proxy Statement for
2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

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IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE SHAREHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 27, 2015	

This Proxy Statement, our 2014 Annual Report and a form of proxy card are available at www.proxyvote.com. You will need your Notice of Internet Availability or proxy card to access the proxy materials.

As permitted by rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), we are furnishing our proxy materials over the Internet to some of our shareholders. This means that some shareholders will not receive paper copies of these documents. Instead, these shareholders will receive only a Notice of Internet Availability containing instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet. The Notice of Internet Availability also contains instructions on how each of those shareholders can request a paper copy of our proxy materials, including the Proxy Statement, our 2014 Annual Report and a proxy card. Shareholders who do not receive a Notice of Internet Availability will receive a paper copy of the proxy materials by mail, unless they have previously requested delivery of proxy materials electronically. If you received only the Notice of Internet Availability and would like to receive a paper copy of the proxy materials, the notice contains instructions on how you can request copies of these documents.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

What is this document?

This document is the Proxy Statement of Dollar General Corporation for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015. We will begin mailing printed copies of this document or the Notice of Internet Availability to shareholders on or about April 2, 2015. We are providing this document to solicit your proxy to vote upon certain matters at the annual meeting.

We refer to our company as "we," "us" or "Dollar General." Unless otherwise noted or required by context, "2015," "2014," "2013," "2012," and "2011" refer to our fiscal years ending or ended January 29, 2016, January 30, 2015, January 31, 2014, February 1, 2013, and February 3, 2012, respectively.

What is a proxy, who is asking for it, and who is paying for the cost to solicit it?

A proxy is your legal designation of another person, called a "proxy," to vote your stock. The document that designates someone as your proxy is also called a proxy or a proxy card.

Our directors, officers and employees are soliciting your proxy on behalf of our Board of Directors. Dollar General will pay all solicitation expenses. We will not additionally compensate these persons to solicit your proxy but will reimburse them for any out-of-pocket expenses they incur. We also may reimburse custodians and nominees for their expenses in sending proxy material to beneficial owners.

Who may attend the annual meeting?

Only shareholders, their proxy holders and our invited guests may attend the meeting. If your shares are registered in the name of a broker, trust, bank or other nominee, you will need to bring a proxy or a letter from that record holder or your most recent brokerage account statement that confirms your ownership of those shares as of March 19, 2015. For security reasons, we also may require photo identification for admission.

Where can I find directions to the annual meeting?

Directions to Goodlettsville City Hall, where we will hold the annual meeting, are posted on the "Investor Information" section of our website located at www.dollargeneral.com.

Will the annual meeting be webcast?

Yes. You are invited to visit the "Conference Calls and Investor Events" section of the "Investor Information" section of our website located at www.dollargeneral.com at 9:00 a.m., Central Time, on May 27, 2015 to access the live webcast of the meeting. An archived copy of the webcast will be available on our website for at least 60 days. The information on our website, however, is not incorporated by reference into, and does not form a part of, this proxy statement.

What is Dollar General Corporation and where is it located?

Dollar General operates conveniently located, small-box stores that deliver everyday low prices on products that families use every day. As of February 27, 2015, we are the largest discount retailer in the United States by number of stores with more than 11,879 locations in 43 states. Our principal executive offices are located at 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, Tennessee 37072. Our telephone number is 615-855-4000.

Where is Dollar General common stock traded?

Our stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "DG."

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VOTING MATTERS

How many votes must be present to hold the annual meeting?

A quorum, consisting of the presence in person or by proxy of the holders of a majority of shares of our common stock outstanding on March 19, 2015, must exist to conduct any business at the meeting.

What if a quorum is not present at the annual meeting?

If a quorum is not present at the meeting, any officer entitled to preside at or to act as Secretary of the meeting shall have power to adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present.

What am I voting on?

You will be asked to vote on:

the election of 8 directors; and

the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm (the "independent auditor") for 2015.

May other matters be raised at the annual meeting?

We are unaware of other matters to be acted upon at the meeting. Under Tennessee law and our governing documents, no other non-procedural business may be raised at the meeting unless proper notice has been given to shareholders. If other business is properly raised, your proxies have authority to vote as they think best, including to adjourn the meeting.

Who is entitled to vote at the annual meeting?

You may vote if you owned shares of Dollar General common stock at the close of business on March 19, 2015. As of that date, there were 303,703,702 shares of Dollar General common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Each share is entitled to one vote on each matter.

What is the difference between a "shareholder of record" and a "street name" holder?

You are a "shareholder of record" if your shares are registered directly in your name with Wells Fargo Shareowner Services, our transfer agent. You are a "street name" holder if your shares are held in the name of a brokerage firm, bank, trust or other nominee as custodian.

How do I vote?

If you are a shareholder of record, you may vote your proxy over the telephone or Internet or, if you received printed proxy materials, by marking, signing, dating and returning the printed proxy card in the enclosed envelope. Please refer to the instructions on the Notice of Internet Availability or proxy card, as applicable. Alternatively, you may vote in person at the meeting.

If you are a street name holder, your broker, bank, or other nominee will provide materials and instructions for voting your shares. You may vote in person at the meeting if you obtain and bring to the meeting a legal proxy from your broker, banker, trustee or other nominee giving you the right to vote the shares.

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What if I receive more than one Notice of Internet Availability or proxy card?

You will receive multiple Notices of Internet Availability or proxy cards if you hold shares in different ways (e.g., joint tenancy, trusts, custodial accounts, etc.) or in multiple accounts. Street name holders will receive the Notice of Internet Availability or proxy card or other voting information, along with voting instructions, from their brokers. Please vote the shares represented by each Notice of Internet Availability or proxy card you receive to ensure that all your shares are voted.

How will my proxy be voted?

The persons named on the proxy card will vote your proxy as you direct or, if you return a signed proxy card or complete the Internet or telephone voting procedures but do not specify how you want to vote your shares: "FOR" all directors nominated and "FOR" ratification of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditor for 2015.

Can I change my mind and revoke my proxy?

Yes. A shareholder of record may revoke a proxy given pursuant to this solicitation by:

- signing a valid, later-dated proxy card and submitting it so that it is received before the annual meeting in accordance with the instructions included in the proxy card;
- at or before the annual meeting, submitting to our Corporate Secretary a written notice of revocation dated later than the date of the proxy;
- submitting a later-dated vote by telephone or Internet no later than 11:59 p.m., Eastern time, on May 26, 2015; or
- attending the annual meeting and voting in person.

Your attendance at the annual meeting, by itself, will not revoke your proxy.

A street name holder may revoke a proxy given pursuant to this solicitation by following the instructions of the bank, broker, trustee or other nominee who holds his or her shares.

How many votes are needed to elect directors?

To be elected at the annual meeting, a nominee must receive the affirmative vote of a majority of votes cast by holders of shares entitled to vote at the meeting. Under our Amended and Restated Charter, the "affirmative vote of a majority of votes cast" means that the number of votes cast in favor of a nominee's election exceeds the number of votes cast against his or her election. You may vote in favor of or against the election of each nominee, or you may elect to abstain from voting your shares.

What happens if a director fails to receive the required vote for election?

An incumbent director who does not receive the required vote for election at the annual meeting must promptly tender a resignation as a director for the Board's consideration pursuant to our Board-approved director resignation policy outlined in our Corporate Governance Guidelines. Each director standing for reelection at the annual meeting has agreed to resign, effective upon the Board's acceptance of such resignation, if he or she does not receive a majority vote. If the Board rejects the offered resignation, the director will continue to serve until the next annual shareholders' meeting and until his or her successor is duly elected or his or her earlier resignation or removal in accordance with our Amended and Restated Bylaws ("Bylaws"). If the Board accepts the offered resignation, the Board, in its sole discretion, may fill the resulting vacancy or decrease the size of the Board.

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How many votes are needed to approve other matters?

The proposal to ratify the appointment of our independent auditor for 2015 will be approved if the votes cast in favor of such proposal exceed the votes cast against it.

With respect to this proposal, and any other matter properly brought before the annual meeting, you may vote in favor of or against the proposal, or you may elect to abstain from voting your shares.

What are broker non-votes?

Although your broker is the record holder of any shares that you hold in street name, it must vote those shares pursuant to your instructions. If you do not provide instructions, your broker may exercise discretionary voting power over your shares for "routine" items but not for "non-routine" items. The election of directors is considered to be a non-routine item, while the ratification of the appointment of our independent auditor is considered to be a routine matter.

"Broker non-votes" occur when shares held of record by a broker are not voted on a matter because the broker has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner and either lacks or declines to exercise the authority to vote the shares in its discretion.

How will abstentions and broker non-votes be treated?

Abstentions and broker non-votes, if any, will be treated as shares that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present but will not be counted as votes cast either in favor of or against a particular proposal and will have no effect on the outcome of a particular proposal.

Will my vote be confidential?

Proxy instructions, ballots and voting tabulations that identify individual shareholders are handled in a manner that is intended to protect your voting privacy. Your vote will not be intentionally disclosed either within Dollar General or to third parties, except (1) as necessary to meet applicable legal requirements; (2) in a dispute regarding authenticity of proxies and ballots; (3) in the case of a contested proxy solicitation, if the other party soliciting proxies does not agree to comply with the confidential voting policy; (4) to allow for the tabulation of votes and certification of the vote; (5) to facilitate a successful proxy solicitation; or (6) when a shareholder makes a written comment on the proxy card or otherwise communicates the vote to management.

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ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

What is the structure of the Board of Directors?

Our Board of Directors must consist of 1 to 15 directors, with the exact number, currently fixed at 8, set by the Board. All directors are elected annually by our shareholders.

Who are the nominees this year?

The nominees for the Board of Directors consist of the 8 current directors. If elected, each nominee would hold office until the 2016 annual meeting of shareholders and until his or her successor is elected and qualified, subject to any earlier resignation or removal. These nominees, their ages at the date of this document and the calendar year in which they first became a director are listed in the table below.

Name	Age	Director Since
Warren F. Bryant	69	2009
Michael M. Calbert	52	2007
Sandra B. Cochran	56	2012
Richard W. Dreiling	61	2008
Patricia D. Fili-Krushel	61	2012
Paula A. Price	53	2014
William C. Rhodes, III	49	2009
David B. Rickard	68	2010

What are the backgrounds of this year's nominees?

Mr. Bryant served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Longs Drug Stores Corporation, a retail drugstore chain on the West Coast and in Hawaii, from 2002 through 2008 and as its Chairman of the Board from 2003 through his retirement in 2008. Prior to joining Longs Drug Stores, he served as a Senior Vice President of The Kroger Co., a retail grocery chain, from 1999 to 2002. Mr. Bryant is a director of Office Depot, Inc. and Loblaw Companies Limited of Canada and served as a director of OfficeMax Incorporated from 2004 to 2013.

Mr. Calbert joined KKR & Co. L.P. ("KKR") in January 2000 and was directly involved with several KKR portfolio companies until his retirement in January 2014. Mr. Calbert led the Retail industry team within KKR's Private Equity platform prior to his retirement and now serves as a consultant to KKR. Mr. Calbert joined Randall's Food Markets beginning in 1994 and served as the Chief Financial Officer from 1997 until it was sold in September 1999. Mr. Calbert also previously worked as a certified public accountant and consultant with Arthur Andersen Worldwide from 1985 to 1994, where his primary focus was the retail and consumer industry. He served as our Chairman of the Board until December 2008. Mr. Calbert is a director of US Foods, Inc. and Academy, Ltd.

Ms. Cochran has served as a director and as President and Chief Executive Officer of Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. since September 2011. She joined Cracker Barrel in April 2009 as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, and was named President and Chief Operating Officer in November 2010. She was previously Chief Executive Officer at book retailer Books-A-Million, Inc. from February 2004 to April 2009. She also served as that company's President (August 1999 February 2004), Chief Financial Officer (September 1993 August 1999) and Vice President of Finance (August 1992 September 1993). Ms. Cochran has over 20 years of experience in the retail industry. She served as a director of Books-A-Million from 2006 to 2009.

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Mr. Dreiling joined Dollar General in January 2008 as Chief Executive Officer and a member of our Board. He was appointed Chairman of the Board on December 2, 2008. Prior to joining Dollar General, Mr. Dreiling served as Chief Executive Officer, President and a director of Duane Reade Holdings, Inc. and Duane Reade Inc., the largest drugstore chain in New York City, from November 2005 until January 2008 and as Chairman of the Board of Duane Reade from March 2007 until January 2008. Prior to that, Mr. Dreiling, beginning in March 2005, served as Executive Vice President Chief Operating Officer of Longs Drug Stores Corporation, a retail drugstore chain on the West Coast and in Hawaii, after having joined Longs in July 2003 as Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer. From 2000 to 2003, Mr. Dreiling served as Executive Vice President Marketing, Manufacturing and Distribution at Safeway Inc., a food and drug retailer. Prior to that, Mr. Dreiling served from 1998 to 2000 as President of Vons, a Southern California food and drug division of Safeway. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA). Mr. Dreiling is a director of Lowe's Companies, Inc.

Ms. Fili-Krushel served as Chairman of NBCUniversal News Group, a division of NBCUniversal Media, LLC, composed of NBC News, CNBC, MSNBC and the Weather Channel, from July 2012 until April 2015. She previously served as Executive Vice President of NBCUniversal (January 2011 July 2012) with a broad portfolio of functions reporting to her, including operations and technical services, business strategy, human resources and legal. Prior to NBCUniversal, Ms. Fili-Krushel was Executive Vice President of Administration at Time Warner Inc. (July 2001 December 2010) where her responsibilities included oversight of philanthropy, corporate social responsibility, human resources, worldwide recruitment, employee development and growth, compensation and benefits, and security. Before joining Time Warner in July 2001, Ms. Fili-Krushel had been Chief Executive Officer of WebMD Health Corp. since April 2000. From July 1998 to April 2000, Ms. Fili-Krushel was President of the ABC Television Network, and from 1993 to 1998 she served as President of ABC Daytime. Before joining ABC, she had been with Lifetime Television since 1988. Prior to Lifetime, Ms. Fili-Krushel held several positions with Home Box Office. Before joining HBO, Ms. Fili-Krushel worked for ABC Sports in various positions.

Ms. Price has been Senior Lecturer at Harvard Business School in the Accounting and Management Unit since July 2014. She was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Ahold USA from May 2009 until January 2014. At Ahold, which operates more than 700 supermarkets under the Stop & Shop, Giant and Martin's names as well as the Peapod online grocery delivery service, Ms. Price was responsible for finance, accounting and shared services, strategic planning, real estate development, store format and construction, and information technology. Before joining Ahold, she was the Senior Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer at CVS Health Corporation (formerly CVS Caremark Corporation) from July 2006 until August 2008. Earlier in her career, Ms. Price served as the Chief Financial Officer for the Institutional Trust Services division of JPMorgan Chase (from August 2002 until September 2005), and held several other senior management positions in the U.S. and the U.K. in the financial services and consumer packaged goods industries. A certified public accountant, she began her career at Arthur Andersen & Co. Ms. Price has also served as a director of Accenture plc since May 2014 and Western Digital Corporation since July 2014 and served as a director of Charming Shoppes, Inc. (Lane Bryant, Catherine's, Fashion Bug, Cacique and Figi's brands) from March 2011 until it was sold in June 2012.

Mr. Rhodes was elected Chairman of AutoZone, Inc., a specialty retailer and distributor of automotive replacement parts and accessories, in June 2007. He has served as President and Chief Executive Officer and as a director of AutoZone since 2005. Prior to his appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Rhodes was Executive Vice President Store Operations and Commercial. Prior to 2004, he had been Senior Vice President Supply Chain and Information Technology since 2002, and prior thereto had been Senior Vice President Supply Chain since 2001. Prior to that time, he served in various capacities with AutoZone, including Vice President Stores in 2000, Senior Vice President Finance and Vice President Finance in 1999, and Vice President Operations Analysis and Support from 1997 to 1999. Prior to 1994, Mr. Rhodes was a manager with Ernst & Young, LLP.

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Mr. Rickard served as the Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer of CVS Health Corporation (formerly CVS Caremark Corporation), a retail pharmacy chain and provider of healthcare services and pharmacy benefits management, from September 1999 until his retirement in December 2009. Prior to joining CVS, Mr. Rickard was the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of RJR Nabisco Holdings Corporation from March 1997 to August 1999. Previously, he was Executive Vice President of International Distillers and Vintners Americas. Mr. Rickard is a director of Harris Corporation and Jones Lang LaSalle Incorporated.

How are directors identified and nominated?

All nominees for election as directors at the annual meeting currently serve on our Board of Directors and were nominated by the Board for election or re-election, as applicable, upon the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee (the "Nominating Committee"). The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying, evaluating and recommending director candidates, while our Board is responsible for nominating the director slate for election at the annual meeting.

The Nominating Committee's charter and our Corporate Governance Guidelines require the Nominating Committee to consider candidates submitted by our shareholders in accordance with the notice provisions of our Bylaws (see "Can shareholders nominate directors?" below) and to apply the same criteria to the evaluation of those candidates as it applies to other director candidates. The Nominating Committee also may use a variety of other methods to identify potential director candidates, such as recommendations by our directors, management, or third-party search firms. Ms. Price, who joined our Board in 2014, was initially recommended to the Nominating Committee by a non-management director.

Our employment transition agreement with Mr. Dreiling requires Dollar General to nominate him to serve as a member of our Board at any meeting of our shareholders held prior to January 29, 2016 that is called for the purpose of electing directors. Our failure to do so would give rise to a breach of contract claim. If Mr. Dreiling is re-elected to our Board at such a meeting, he agrees to serve in such capacity and shall serve as the Chairman of the Board at least through the date on which a successor chief executive officer begins employment with us and, if asked by our Board, through January 29, 2016 if later.

How are nominees evaluated; what are the minimum qualifications?

Subject to Mr. Dreiling's employment transition agreement discussed above, the Nominating Committee is charged with recommending to the Board of Directors only those candidates that it believes are qualified to serve as Board members consistent with the criteria for selection of new directors adopted from time to time by the Board and who have not achieved the age of 76, unless the Board has approved an exception to this limit on a case by case basis. We have a written policy to strive to have a Board representing diverse experience at policy-making levels in areas that are relevant to our business. To implement this policy, the Committee assesses diversity by evaluating each candidate's individual qualifications in the context of how that candidate would relate to the Board as a whole and also considers more traditional concepts of diversity. The Committee periodically assesses the effectiveness of this policy by considering whether the Board as a whole represents such diverse experience and composition and by recommending to the Board changes to the criteria for selection of new directors as appropriate. The Committee recommends candidates, including those submitted by shareholders, only if it believes the candidate's knowledge, experience and expertise would strengthen the Board and that the candidate is committed to representing the long-term interests of all Dollar General shareholders.

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The Nominating Committee assesses a candidate's independence, background and experience, as well as the current Board's skill needs and diversity. With respect to incumbent directors selected for re-election, the Committee also assesses each director's meeting attendance record and suitability for continued service. In addition, the Committee determines that all nominees are in a position to devote an adequate amount of time to the effective performance of director duties and possess the following characteristics: integrity and accountability, informed judgment, financial literacy, a cooperative approach, a record of achievement, loyalty, and the ability to consult with and advise management.

What particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills led the Board of Directors to conclude that each nominee should serve as a director of Dollar General?

Our Board of Directors believes that each of the nominees can devote an adequate amount of time to the effective performance of director duties and possesses the minimum qualifications identified above. The Board has determined that the nominees, as a whole, complement each other, meet the Board's skill needs, and represent diverse experience at policy-making levels in areas relevant to our business. The Board also considered the following in determining that the nominees should serve as directors of Dollar General:

Mr. Bryant has over 40 years of retail experience, including experience in marketing, merchandising, operations and finance. His substantial experience in leadership and policy-making roles at other retail companies provides him with an extensive understanding of our industry, as well as with valuable executive management skills and the ability to effectively advise our CEO.

Mr. Calbert has considerable experience in managing private equity portfolio companies and is familiar with corporate finance and strategic business planning activities. As the former head of KKR's Retail industry team, Mr. Calbert has a strong background and extensive experience in advising and managing companies in the retail industry, including evaluating business strategies, financial plans and structures, and management teams. Mr. Calbert also has a significant financial and accounting background evidenced by his prior experience as the chief financial officer of a retail company and his 10 years of practice as a certified public accountant. Mr. Calbert serves as the Board's independent lead director and leads the executive sessions of our non-management and independent directors.

Ms. Cochran brings over 20 years of retail experience to Dollar General as a result of her current and former roles at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store and her former roles at Books-A-Million. This experience allows her to provide additional support and perspective to our CEO and our Board. In addition, Ms. Cochran's industry and executive experience provides leadership, consensus-building, strategic planning, risk management and budgeting skills. Ms. Cochran also has significant financial experience, having served as the chief financial officer of two public companies and as vice president, corporate finance of SunTrust Securities, Inc., and our Board has determined that she qualifies as an audit committee financial expert.

Mr. Dreiling brings to Dollar General over 45 years of retail experience at all operating levels. He provides a unique perspective regarding our industry as a result of his experience progressing through the ranks within various retail companies. His experience overseeing the operations, marketing, manufacturing and distribution functions of other retail companies bolsters Mr. Dreiling's thorough understanding of all key areas of our business. In addition, Mr. Dreiling's service in leadership and policy-making positions of other retail companies has provided him with the necessary leadership skills to effectively guide and oversee the direction of Dollar General and with the consensus-building skills required to lead our management team and our Board. Moreover, during the time that Mr. Dreiling has served as our CEO, he has gained a thorough understanding of our operations and has managed us through significant change. He was named "Retailer of the Year" by Mass Market Retailer for 2010 and 2014. Mr. Dreiling was also listed among Supermarket News "Power 50 Retailers" for 2011 and 2012 and named "CEO of the Year" by the Retail Leader in 2012.

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Ms. Fili-Krushel's background increases the breadth of experience of our Board as a result of her extensive executive experience overseeing the business strategy, philanthropy, corporate social responsibility, human resources, recruitment, employee growth and development, compensation and benefits, and legal functions at large public companies in the media industry. In addition, her understanding of consumer behavior based on her knowledge of viewership patterns and preferences provides additional perspective to our Board in understanding our customer base.

Ms. Price brings broad experience across finance, general management and strategy gained from her service in senior executive and management positions at major corporations across several industries, including as Chief Financial Officer of Ahold USA before her retirement in 2014. Ms. Price's numerous years of experience as a certified public accountant, former Chief Financial Officer and former Chief Accounting Officer provide our Board with valuable experience and insight into accounting and finance matters, and consequently, our Board has determined that Ms. Price is an audit committee financial expert. She also brings to our Board a valuable perspective as a member of the faculty at Harvard Business School and from her service as a board member of several public companies.

Mr. Rhodes has 20 years of experience in the retail industry, including extensive experience in operations, supply chain and finance, among other areas. This background serves as a strong foundation for offering invaluable perspective and expertise to our CEO and our Board. In addition, his experience as a board chairman and chief executive officer of a public retail company and as the former Chairman of RILA provides leadership, consensus-building, strategic planning and budgeting skills, as well as extensive understanding of both short- and long-term issues confronting the retail industry. Mr. Rhodes also has a strong financial background.

Mr. Rickard held senior management and executive positions for much of his 38 years in the corporate world. He has significant retail experience and a diverse retail industry background, including experience serving on the board of another retail company. He also has an extensive financial and accounting background, having served as the chief financial officer of two public companies, including a large retailer. As a result, our Board has determined that Mr. Rickard is an audit committee financial expert and has elected him to serve as the Chairman of the Audit Committee. Mr. Rickard's financial experience within the retail industry also brings expertise and perspective to our Board's discussions regarding strategic planning and budgeting.

Acting upon the Nominating Committee's recommendation, and after concluding that these nominees possess the appropriate experience, qualifications, attributes and skills, our Board has unanimously nominated these individuals to be elected by our shareholders at our annual meeting.

Can shareholders nominate directors?

Yes. Shareholders can nominate directors by following the procedures outlined in our Bylaws. In short, the shareholder must deliver a written notice to our Corporate Secretary at 100 Mission Ridge, Goodlettsville, TN 37072 for receipt no earlier than the close of business on the 120th day and not later than the close of business on the 90th day prior to the first anniversary of the prior year's annual meeting. However, if the meeting is held more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after such anniversary date, the notice must be received no earlier than the close of business on the 120th day and not later than the close of business on the 90th day prior to the date of such annual meeting. If the first public announcement of the annual meeting date is less than 100 days prior to the date of such annual meeting, the notice must be received by the 10th day following the public announcement date.

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The notice must contain all information required by our Bylaws about the shareholder proposing the nominee and about the nominee, which generally includes:

the nominee's name, age, business and residence addresses, and principal occupation or employment;

the class and number of shares of Dollar General common stock beneficially owned by the nominee and by the shareholder proposing the nominee;

any other information relating to the nominee that is required to be disclosed in proxy solicitations with respect to nominees for election as directors pursuant to Regulation 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (including the nominee's written consent to being named in the proxy statement as a nominee and to serving as a director, if elected);

the name and address of the shareholder proposing the nominee as they appear on our record books, and the name and address of the beneficial holder (if applicable);

any other interests of the proposing shareholder or the proposing shareholder's immediate family in the securities of Dollar General, including interests the value of which is based on increases or decreases in the value of securities of Dollar General or the payment of dividends by Dollar General;

a description of all compensatory arrangements or understandings between the proposing shareholder and each nominee; and

a description of all arrangements or understandings between the proposing shareholder and each nominee and any other person pursuant to which the nomination is to be made by the shareholder.

You should consult our Bylaws, posted on the "Investor Information Corporate Governance" section of our website located at www.dollargeneral.com, for more detailed information regarding the process by which shareholders may nominate directors. No shareholder nominees have been proposed for this year's annual meeting.

What if a nominee is unwilling or unable to serve?

That is not expected to occur. If it does, the persons designated as proxies on the proxy card are authorized to vote your proxy for a substitute designated by our Board of Directors.

Are there any familial relationships between any of the nominees?

There are no familial relationships between any of the nominees or between any of the nominees and any of our executive officers. See "Director Independence" below for a discussion of a familial relationship between Ms. Cochran and one of our non-executive officers.

What does the Board of Directors recommend?

Our Board unanimously recommends that you vote **FOR** the election of each of the director nominees.

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CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Does the Board of Directors have standing Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees?

Yes. Our Board of Directors has a standing Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating Committee. The Board has adopted a written charter for each of these committees, which are available on the "Investor Information Corporate Governance" section of our website located at www.dollargeneral.com. Current information regarding each of these committees is set forth below.

Name of Committee & Members	Committee Functions
AUDIT:	
Mr. Rickard, Chairman Mr. Bryant Ms. Cochran Ms. Price	<p>Selects the independent auditor</p> <p>Pre-approves the independent auditor's audit engagement fees and terms and all permitted non-audit services and fees</p> <p>Reviews an annual report describing the independent auditor's internal quality control procedures and any material issues raised by its most recent review of internal quality controls</p> <p>Annually evaluates the independent auditor's qualifications, performance and independence, annually evaluates the lead audit partner, and periodically considers whether there should be a regular rotation of such firm</p> <p>Discusses the audit scope and any audit problems or difficulties</p> <p>Sets policies regarding the hiring of current and former employees of the independent auditor</p> <p>Discusses the annual audited and quarterly unaudited financial statements with management and the independent auditor</p> <p>Discusses types of information to be disclosed in earnings press releases and provided to analysts and rating agencies</p> <p>Discusses policies governing the process by which risk assessment and risk management are to be undertaken</p>

Reviews disclosures made by the CEO and CFO regarding any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting

Reviews internal audit activities, projects and budget

Establishes procedures for receipt, retention and treatment of complaints we receive regarding accounting or internal controls

Discusses with our general counsel legal matters having an impact on financial statements

Performs an annual self-evaluation

Furnishes the committee report required in our proxy statement

Evaluates and makes recommendations concerning shareholder proposals relating to matters within the committee's expertise

Periodically reviews and reassesses the committee's charter

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Name of Committee & Members	Committee Functions
COMPENSATION:	
Mr. Bryant, Chairman Ms. Fili-Krushel Mr. Rhodes	Reviews and approves corporate goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of our CEO
	Determines the compensation of our executive officers and recommends the compensation of our directors
	Recommends, when appropriate, changes to our compensation philosophy and principles
	Establishes our short-term incentive compensation program for senior officers
	Establishes our long-term incentive compensation program and approves equity-based awards under such program
	Oversees the share ownership guidelines and holding requirements for Board members and senior officers
	Oversees the process for evaluating our senior officers
	Reviews and discusses with management, prior to the filing of the proxy statement, the disclosure regarding executive compensation, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and compensation tables (in addition to preparing a report on executive compensation for the proxy statement)
	Oversees and evaluates the independence of its compensation consultant and other advisors
	Performs an annual self-evaluation
	Evaluates and makes recommendations concerning shareholder proposals relating to matters within the committee's expertise

NOMINATING AND

Periodically reviews and reassesses the committee's charter

GOVERNANCE:

Develops and recommends criteria for selecting new directors

Mr. Rhodes, Chairman
Ms. Cochran
Ms. Fili-Krushel

Screens and recommends to our Board individuals qualified to become members of our Board

Recommends the structure and membership of Board committees

Recommends persons to fill Board and committee vacancies