## Allegiant Travel CO

Form DEF 14A
April 30, 2019

SCHEDULE 14A

## INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

## SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

## Filed by the Registrant x

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o Preliminary Proxy Statement
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14a-12

## ALLEGIANT TRAVEL COMPANY

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(3)Filing Party:
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## ALLEGIANT TRAVEL COMPANY

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To the Shareholders of Allegiant Travel Company:
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of Shareholders of Allegiant Travel Company (the "Company") will be held at our company headquarters at 1201 N. Town Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89144 on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. local time, for the following purposes:
(1) To elect Directors;
(2) To vote on a proposal to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of our named executive officers;
(3) To ratify the selection by the audit committee of our board of directors of the firm KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accountants for the year ending December 31, 2019;
(4) To consider and vote on a shareholder proposal; and
(5) To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Holders of the Common Stock of record at the close of business on April 30, 2019 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting. A list of shareholders will be available at the annual meeting.

It is important that your shares be represented at the annual meeting to ensure the presence of a quorum. Whether or not you expect to be present in person at the meeting, please vote your shares by signing and dating the accompanying proxy and returning it promptly in the enclosed postage paid reply envelope. You may also vote by telephone from the United States, or through the Internet, using the instructions on the proxy card. We encourage you to vote via telephone or the Internet to help save on postage costs. In addition, if you vote via the Internet, you may elect to have next year's Proxy Statement and Annual Report delivered to you electronically. We encourage you to enroll in electronic delivery, as it is a cost-effective way for us to provide you with electronic versions of the proxy materials and annual reports.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Gregory C. Anderson,<br>Secretary<br>May 17, 2019<br>Las Vegas, Nevada

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ALLEGIANT TRAVEL COMPANY<br>1201 N. TOWN CENTER DRIVE<br>LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144<br>(702) 851-7300

## PROXY STATEMENT

## FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held on June 27, 2019
This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of our board of directors to be voted at the annual meeting of our shareholders to be held on June 27, 2019, and any adjournment or adjournments thereof, for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. Our annual meeting of shareholders will be held at our company headquarters at 1201 N. Town Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89144, on Thursday, June 27, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. local time. This proxy statement and accompanying form of proxy will be first sent or given to our shareholders on or about May 17, 2019. Our annual report for the year ended December 31, 2018, is being sent to each shareholder of record along with this proxy statement.

## ABOUT THE MEETING

What is the purpose of the annual meeting?
At our annual meeting, our shareholders will act upon the matters outlined in the accompanying notice of meeting, including the election of directors, an advisory vote on executive compensation, ratification of our independent registered public accountants and a shareholder proposal. In addition, our management will report on our performance during the 2018 year and respond to questions from shareholders.

Who is entitled to vote?
Only shareholders of record at the close of business on the record date, April 30, 2019, are entitled to receive notice of the annual meeting and to vote the shares of our common stock that they held on that date at the meeting, or any postponement or adjournment of the meeting. Each outstanding share entitles its holder to cast one vote on each matter to be voted upon.

Who can attend the meeting?
All shareholders as of the record date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the meeting. Seating, however, may be limited. Admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Each shareholder may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Cameras, recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

Please note that if you hold your shares in "street name" (that is, through a broker or other nominee), you will need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement reflecting your stock ownership as of the record date.

What constitutes a quorum?
The presence at the meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock outstanding on the record date will constitute a quorum, permitting the meeting to conduct its business. As of the
record date, we had $16,286,963$ shares of common stock outstanding. Abstentions are included in the shares present at the meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. Broker non-votes (when shares are represented at the meeting by a proxy specifically conferring only limited authority to vote on certain matters and no authority to vote on other matters) are also included in the determination of the number of shares represented at the meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.

How do I vote?
To vote, you may complete and return a written proxy card. You may also vote by telephone from the United States, or through the Internet, using the instructions on the proxy card. We encourage you to vote via telephone or the Internet to help save on postage costs. In addition, if you vote via the Internet, you may elect to have next year's Proxy Statement and Annual Report
delivered to you electronically. We encourage you to enroll in electronic delivery, as it is a cost-effective way for us to provide you with electronic versions of the proxy materials and annual reports.

You can also vote in person at the meeting, and submitting your voting instructions by proxy card will not affect your right to attend and vote. "Street name" shareholders who wish to vote at the meeting will need to obtain a proxy form from the institution that holds their shares.

Can I change my vote after I return my proxy card?
Yes. Even after you have voted by written proxy card, you may change your vote at any time before the proxy is exercised by filing with our secretary either a written notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date. The powers of the proxy holders will be suspended if you attend the meeting in person and so request, although attendance at the meeting will not by itself revoke a previously granted proxy. All written notices of revocation or other communications with respect to revocation of proxies should be addressed as follows: Allegiant Travel Company, 1201 N. Town Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89144, Attention: Gregory Anderson, Secretary.

What are the recommendations of our board of directors?
Unless you give other instructions when voting, the persons named as proxy holders on the proxy card will vote in accordance with the recommendations of our board of directors. Our board recommends a vote FOR election of the nominated slate of directors, FOR approval of the advisory vote of the compensation of our named executive officers, FOR the ratification of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accountants and AGAINST the shareholder proposal.
With respect to any other matter that properly comes before the meeting, the proxy holders will vote as recommended by our board of directors or, if no recommendation is given, in their own discretion.
What vote is required to approve each item?
The governing documents of the corporation have never required a supermajority vote. The vote required for each item is discussed below.

Election of Directors. Our By-Laws require that in an uncontested election, each director must be elected annually by a majority of votes cast with respect to that director. This means that the number of votes "for" a director must exceed the number of votes "against" that director. In the event a nominee for director receives more "against" votes for his or her election than "for" votes, the board must consider such director's resignation after consideration and a recommendation by the nominating committee. The majority voting standard does not apply in the event the number of nominees for director exceeds the number of directors to be elected. In those circumstances, directors will instead be elected by a plurality of the votes cast, meaning that the persons receiving the highest number of "for" votes, up to the total number of directors to be elected at the annual meeting, will be elected.

With regard to the election of directors, the board intends to nominate the six persons identified as its nominees in this proxy statement. Because we have not received notice from any shareholder of an intent to nominate directors at the annual meeting, each of the directors must be elected by a majority of votes cast. For these purposes, abstentions and broker non-votes are not treated as votes cast with respect to a director and therefore will not be counted in determining the outcome of the election of directors.
Advisory Vote on Compensation of Named Executive Officers. The resolution will be approved if the number of votes cast in favor of the resolution exceeds the number of votes cast in opposition to the resolution. Abstentions and broker non-votes are included in the number of shares present or represented for purposes of quorum, but are not considered as shares voting or as votes cast with respect to any matter presented at the annual meeting. As a result, abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on the proposal to approve executive compensation as
disclosed in this proxy statement.
Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accountants. To approve the ratification of our independent registered public accountants, the resolution will be approved if the number of votes cast in favor of the resolution exceeds the number of votes cast in opposition of the resolution. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on the proposal to ratify the appointment of our independent registered public accountants.

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Shareholder Proposal and Other Items. The shareholder proposal and any other item which may properly come before the meeting will be approved if the number of votes cast in favor of the resolution exceeds the number of votes cast in opposition of the proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on any such proposal.
Our management knows of no matter to be brought before the meeting other than the election of directors and those other items described in this proxy statement. If, however, any other matters properly come before the meeting, it is intended that the proxies will be voted in accordance with the judgment of the person or persons voting such proxies. How will proxies be solicited?

Proxies will be solicited by mail. Proxies may also be solicited by our officers and regular employees personally or by telephone or facsimile, but such persons will not be specifically compensated for such services. Banks, brokers, nominees and other custodians and fiduciaries will be reimbursed for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in forwarding soliciting material to their principals, the beneficial owners of our common stock. We will pay the expense of preparing, assembling, printing, mailing and soliciting proxies.

Is there electronic access to the proxy materials and annual report?
Yes. This proxy statement and our annual report are available on our web site, www.allegiant.com.

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## STOCK OWNERSHIP

Security Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners
The following table shows information known to us with respect to beneficial ownership of our common stock as of April 30, 2019, by (A) each director, (B) each of the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table beginning on page 25, (C) all executive officers and directors as a group and (D) each person known by us to be a beneficial owner of more than 5 percent of our outstanding common stock.

Each shareholder's percentage ownership in the following table is based on $16,286,963$ shares of common stock outstanding as of April 30, 2019.

Except as otherwise indicated, and subject to applicable community property laws, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of common stock held by them.

Name of Beneficial Owner
5\% Shareholders:
Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. (1)
BlackRock, Inc. (2)
PAR Investment Partners, L.P. (3)
The Vanguard Group (4)
Shares Beneficially

| Owned |
| :--- |
| Number |

$3,191,617$
$1,827,451$
$11.6 \%$
$1,610,000$
$1,9.9 \%$
$1,191,862$ $7.3 \%$

Named Executive Officers and Directors:
Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. (1)
Montie Brewer (5)
Linda Marvin (6)
Charles Pollard (7)
Gary Ellmer (8)
John Redmond (9)
Scott Sheldon (10)
Robert P. Wilson III (11)
Gregory Anderson (12)
All executive officers and directors as a group (9 persons) (13)
3,191,617 19.6\%

* Represents ownership of less than one percent.

The address of Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., is 1201 N. Town Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89144. These shares include 215,000 shares of common stock held by two entities controlled by Mr. Gallagher. The shares also include
$1.19,043$ shares of restricted stock not yet vested. Of Mr. Gallagher's ownership, $1,330,000$ shares are pledged under a line of credit agreement with a balance of approximately 22 percent of the value of the pledged stock as of April 25, 2019.

Information is based on a Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 11 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 24, 2019, by BlackRock, Inc. The Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 11 reports that as of December 31, 2018, 2. BlackRock, Inc. has sole voting power over $1,802,750$ shares and sole dispositive power over $1,827,451$ shares
2. which are owned by various subsidiaries of BlackRock, Inc. with no subsidiaries (other than BlackRock Fund Advisors) owning more than 5 percent of our outstanding common stock. The address of this beneficial owner is 55 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10055.
3.

Information is based on Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 1 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 14, 2019 by PAR Investment Partners, L.P., PAR Group II, L.P. (the sole general partner of PAR Investment Partners, L.P.) and PAR Capital Management, Inc. (the sole general partner of PAR Group II, L.P.). Each of PAR Group II, L.P. and PAR Capital Management, Inc. may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of all shares held directly by PAR Investment Partners, L.P. The address of this beneficial owner is 200 Clarendon Street, FL48, Boston, Massachusetts 02116.
Information is based on a Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 5 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 11, 2019, by The Vanguard Group as an investment adviser. The Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 5 reports that as of December 31, 2018, The Vanguard Group beneficially has sole voting power over 25,849 shares, shared voting power
over 200 shares, sole dispositive power over 1,166,319 shares and shared dispositive power over 25,543 shares. The address of this beneficial owner is 100 Vanguard Blvd., Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355.
5. Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock held by Mr. Brewer not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
6. Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock held by Ms. Marvin not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
7. Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock held by Mr. Pollard not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
8. Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock held by Mr. Ellmer not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
9. Includes 31,277 shares of restricted stock held by Mr. Redmond not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement. 10.Includes 16,887 shares of restricted stock held by Mr. Sheldon not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
11. Includes 9,285 shares of restricted stock held by Mr. Wilson not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
12. Includes 13,501 shares of restricted stock held by Mr. Anderson not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
13. See footnotes 1, 5-12.

Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans
The following table provides information regarding options, warrants and other rights to acquire equity securities under our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2018:

| Number of <br> securities to <br> be issued <br> upon | Neighted-Average <br> exercise of | Number of <br> securities |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| exercise price of |  |  |
| available for <br> options, <br> warrants <br> and rights <br> (2) | autstanding <br> options, warrants <br> fut rights | issuance <br> under equity <br> compensation <br> plans (3) |
| 9,737 | $\$ 108.59$ | $1,398,808$ |

1. There are no securities to be issued under any equity compensation plans that have not been approved by our - security holders.

The shares shown as to be issued upon exercise under equity compensation plans exclude unvested restricted stock
2. awards of 196,194 shares as all restricted stock awards are deemed to have been issued, and exclude all outstanding stock appreciation rights ("SARs") which are settled in cash.
Our 2016 Long-Term Incentive Plan applies a fungible ratio such that a full-value award, such as a restricted stock
3. grant or restricted stock unit grant, will be counted at two times its number for purposes of the plan limit. As a
result, a maximum of 699,404 shares of restricted stock are remaining for future issuance under the 2016
Long-Term Incentive Plan as of December 31, 2018.

## Pledging Policy

The Company has not adopted any policy to restrict the ability of employees (including officers) or directors to hedge any equity ownership in the Company. As such, employees and directors may purchase financial instruments (including variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars and exchange funds) or otherwise engage in transactions that hedge or offset, or are designed to hedge or offset, any decrease in the value of Company equity securities. Any such transactions by our named executive officers or directors are disclosed in the footnotes to the stock ownership table.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance
Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors and executive officers and persons who own more than 10 percent of our equity securities to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such persons are required by the Exchange Act to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

Based solely on our review of the copies of such forms received by us with respect to transactions during 2018 and through the date of this statement, or written representations from certain reporting persons, we believe that our directors and executive officers have complied with all filing requirements applicable to them. We note we had one or more shareholders with more than 10 percent ownership during 2018 which are not insiders. These 10 percent owners did not file reports on Form 3, 4 or 5 during 2018.

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## PROPOSAL NO. 1

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our By-laws provide that there shall be six directors. Each year, all members of our board of directors are to be elected. All directors serve for a one-year term.

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to our board of directors as of April 30, 2019:

|  |  |  | Director |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Name | Age | Position | Since (1) |
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. | 69 | Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board | 2001 |
| John Redmond | 60 | President, Director | 2007 |
| Montie Brewer (2) (3) | 61 | Director | 2009 |
| Gary Ellmer (2) (3) (4) | 65 | Director | 2008 |
| Linda A. Marvin (3) (4) | 57 | Director | 2013 |
| Charles Pollard (2) (4) | 61 | Director | 2009 |

1. Each director serves for a one-year term with all directors being elected at each shareholders' meeting.
2. Member of the compensation committee.
3. Member of the nominating committee.
4. Member of the audit committee.

Nominees for Election as Directors
All of our directors are to be elected at this annual meeting. The nominating committee of our board of directors has recommended, and our board of directors has approved, the nomination of all existing board members for reelection for a one-year term expiring in 2020. Each elected director will hold office until his or her term expires and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified.

In accordance with the provisions of our By-laws, each nominee has submitted his or her resignation from the board to become effective if the nominee receives more "against" votes than "for" votes and if the resignation is accepted by the board after consideration and recommendation by the nominating committee.

It is the intention of the persons named in the accompanying proxy form to vote for the election of all nominees unless otherwise instructed. If, for any reason, any such nominee is not a candidate when the election occurs, which event is not anticipated, it is the intention of the persons named in the accompanying proxy form to vote for the remaining nominees named and to vote in accordance with their best judgment if any substitute nominees are named.

Below are the principal occupations and business experience, for at least the past five years, of each nominee. In addition, we indicate below the experience and qualifications which led the board of directors to conclude that each person should serve on the board:

Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. has been actively involved in the management of our company since he became our majority owner and joined our board of directors in 2001. He has served as our chief executive officer since 2003 and was designated chairman of the board in 2006. Prior to his involvement with Allegiant, Mr. Gallagher devoted his time to his investment activities, including companies which he founded. Mr. Gallagher was one of the founders of ValuJet Airlines, Inc. (the predecessor of AirTran which later merged into Southwest Airlines) and served as an officer and director of ValuJet from its inception in 1993 until 1997. From 1983 until 1992, Mr. Gallagher was a principal owner
and executive of WestAir Commuter Airlines.

As the founder of our business strategy and as our chief executive officer for the last 16 years, Mr. Gallagher provides invaluable strategic direction, innovation and experience to our board.

John Redmond was originally elected to our board in 2007 and served until June 2013, when he resigned to assume a full-time commitment in Australia. After the completion of his commitment, he was once again designated to serve on the board in April 2014 and in September 2016, he was hired as the company's president. From January 2013 until April 2014, Mr. Redmond served as managing director and chief executive officer of Echo Entertainment Group, Ltd., a gaming and hospitality company. From 2007 until January 2013, Mr. Redmond devoted his time to his private investments. Mr. Redmond served as
president and chief executive officer of MGM Grand Resorts, LLC and a director of its parent company, MGM Mirage, from 2001 until 2007. Prior to that, he served as co-chief executive officer and a director of MGM Grand, Inc. from December 1999 to March 2001. He was senior vice president of MGM Grand Development, Inc. from 1996 to 1999. He served as vice-chairman of MGM Grand Detroit, LLC from 1998 to 2000 and chairman from 2000 until 2007. Prior to 1996, Mr. Redmond was senior vice president and chief financial officer of Caesars Palace and Sheraton Desert Inn, having served in various other senior operational and development positions with Caesars World, Inc. Mr. Redmond has served as a director of Vail Resorts, Inc. since 2008 and served as director of Echo Entertainment Group Limited from September 2011 until April 2014.

Mr. Redmond's prior experience as chief executive officer of MGM entities and extensive prior experience with other resorts provide a travel industry perspective not shared by the other members of our board. With the development of Sunseeker Resorts, Mr. Redmond's input is particularly valuable to our board.

Montie Brewer was elected to our board in 2009. Mr. Brewer served in senior management roles for Air Canada from 2002 until 2009, serving as its president and chief executive officer from 2004 until 2009. Mr. Brewer served on the board of directors of Air Canada from 2002 until 2010. Prior to Air Canada, Mr. Brewer served as senior vice president-planning for United Airlines and previously worked at Northwest Airlines, Republic Airlines, Braniff and TransWorld Airlines, beginning his employment in the airline industry in 1981. Mr. Brewer served as an executive officer of United Airlines from 1988 until 2002. Mr. Brewer has also served as a director of Aer Lingus since 2010.

Mr. Brewer's prior experience as chief executive officer of Air Canada for more than four years, and his more than 28 years in management positions at multiple airlines, provide the background for a conclusion that he is a valuable addition to our board.

Gary Ellmer was elected to our board in 2008. Mr. Ellmer served in senior management positions for ATA Airlines from 2006 until February 2008, serving as chief operating officer from September 2007 until February 2008. Mr. Ellmer served as president and chief operating officer of Executive Airlines/American Eagle Caribbean from 2002 until 2006. From 1998 until 2002, he served in various officer positions for American Eagle Airlines, Business Express Airlines and WestAir Commuter Airlines.

Mr. Ellmer's service as chief operating officer of three airlines, and more than 27 years of experience in the airline industry, provide significant experience with regard to airline operations to support a conclusion that he should continue to serve on our board.

Linda A. Marvin was elected to our board in 2013. Ms. Marvin served as chief financial officer of the Company from 2001 until 2007 and consulted with the Company on a part-time basis until 2008. Since then, Ms. Marvin has dedicated her time to philanthropic activities and her private investments. She served as an officer of The Animal Foundation from January 2010 until January 2013 and served as its chairman from February 2013 until March 2016. She is also an active member of the United Way's Women's Leadership Council. From 1996 through 2001, Ms. Marvin held various management positions for Mpower Communications, including chief financial officer and senior vice president of finance. Prior to that, she was involved in the airline industry in various finance and accounting roles with Business Express/Delta Connection and with WestAir Commuter Airlines and earlier in her career, served as an audit manager with KPMG Peat Marwick.

Ms. Marvin's experience as chief financial officer of the Company, and her background in the airline industry, add valuable knowledge to our board.

Charles W. Pollard was elected to our board in 2009. Mr. Pollard served in various executive positions for Omni Air International from 1997 until 2009, including as its president and chief executive officer from January 2007 until

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September 2008. Prior to his employment with Omni Air International, Mr. Pollard served in various executive positions for World Airways from 1987 until 1997, including as president and chief executive officer from 1993 to 1997. Mr. Pollard began his career as an attorney in the corporate practice group of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher \& Flom LLP from 1983 to 1987. Mr. Pollard served as a director of Air Partner, PLC from 2009 through 2014, and has served as a director of Aircastle Limited since 2010.

Mr. Pollard's experience as chief executive officer of both Omni Air International and World Airways, and his corporate law background, provide a skill set of particular value to our board.

Our board of directors recommends that shareholders vote FOR each of the nominees to our board of directors. Please note that proxies cannot be voted for more than six directors.

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## Director Independence

Our board of directors has determined that all of our directors, other than Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. and John Redmond, are independent under the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market. As neither Mr. Gallagher nor Mr. Redmond serve on any of the board's committees, all committee members are independent under the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market.

## Committees of the Board of Directors

We have a standing audit committee, compensation committee and nominating committee. Each committee has the right to retain its own legal and other advisors.

## Audit Committee

The audit committee is currently comprised of Gary Ellmer, Linda Marvin and Charles Pollard, each of whom is independent under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards. Linda Marvin has been identified as the audit committee financial expert and serves as the chairperson of the committee. Our audit committee met five times during the 2018 year.

Our board of directors has adopted a charter for the audit committee setting forth the structure, powers and responsibilities of the audit committee. A copy of the audit committee charter can be found on our website at www.allegiant.com by clicking on "About Allegiant," then "Investor Relations," then "Corporate Governance" under which the "Committee Charters" are found. Pursuant to the charter, the audit committee will be comprised of at least three members appointed by the board of directors, each of whom shall satisfy the membership requirements of independence, financial literacy or accounting or financial expertise as prescribed by applicable rules.
The audit committee provides assistance to the board of directors in fulfilling its legal and fiduciary obligations in matters involving our accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal control and legal compliance functions. The audit committee also oversees the audit efforts of our independent registered public accounting firm and takes those actions as it deems necessary to satisfy itself that the auditors are independent of management.
Compensation Committee
The compensation committee is comprised of Montie Brewer, Gary Ellmer and Charles Pollard, each of whom is a non-employee director and is independent under the Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards. Our compensation committee met five times during the 2018 year, including action taken by the committee as a part of full board meetings.

Our board of directors has adopted a charter for the compensation committee setting forth the structure, powers and responsibilities of the compensation committee. A copy of the charter of the compensation committee can be found on our website at www.allegiant.com by clicking on "About Allegiant," then "Investor Relations," then "Corporate Governance" under which the "Committee Charters" are found.
The compensation committee determines our compensation policies and forms of compensation provided to our directors and officers. The compensation committee also reviews and determines bonuses for our named executive officers. In addition, the compensation committee reviews and determines stock-based compensation for our directors, officers, employees and consultants, and administers our long-term incentive plan. Our chief executive officer and chairman of the board, Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., provides input to the compensation committee in making compensation decisions for our other executive officers.

Nominating Committee

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The nominating committee is authorized and empowered to submit to the entire board of directors for its approval, the committee's recommendations for nominees to the board of directors. The nominating committee consists of Montie Brewer, Gary Ellmer and Linda Marvin. All of the current members of our nominating committee are independent under the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market. Our nominating committee met one time during the 2018 year.

The responsibilities of the nominating committee are to identify individuals qualified to become board members, recommend director nominees to the board of directors prior to each annual meeting of shareholders, and recommend nominees for any committee of the board. A copy of the charter of the nominating committee can be found on our website at www.allegiant.com

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by clicking on "About Allegiant," then "Investor Relations," then "Corporate Governance" under which the "Committee Charters" are found.
To fulfill its responsibilities, the nominating committee will periodically consider and make recommendations to the board regarding what experience, talents, skills and other characteristics the board as a whole should possess in order to maintain its effectiveness. In determining whether to nominate an incumbent director for reelection, the nominating committee will evaluate each incumbent's continued service, in light of the board's collective requirements, at the time such director comes up for reelection. When the need for a new director arises (whether because of a newly created board seat or vacancy), the nominating committee will proceed by whatever means it deems appropriate to identify a qualified candidate or candidates. The nominating committee will review the qualifications of each candidate. Final candidates will generally be interviewed by our chairman of the board and one or more other board members. The nominating committee will then make a recommendation to the board based on its review, the results of interviews with the candidate and all other available information. Our board makes the final decision on whether to invite the candidate to join the board.
The nominating committee's charter provides general qualifications nominees should meet. These qualifications include the following:

Directors should possess the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values, and be committed to representing the long-term interests of our shareholders. They must also have an inquisitive and objective perspective, practical wisdom and mature judgment. We endeavor to have a board representing experience in areas that are relevant to our business activities.

Directors must be willing to devote sufficient time to carrying out their duties and responsibilities efficiently, and should be committed to serve on the board for an extended period of time. Directors should offer their resignation in -the event of any significant change in their personal circumstances, including a change in their principal job responsibilities, which would reasonably be expected to adversely affect his or her ability to perform the duties of a director.

A director should disclose the director's consideration of new directorships with other organizations so that the board can consider and express its views regarding the impact on the director's service to us. The nominating committee and -the board will consider service on other boards in considering potential candidates for nomination to stand for election or re-election to our board. Current positions held by directors may be maintained unless the board determines that doing so would impair the director's service to our board.

Any shareholder may nominate a person for election as a director at a meeting of shareholders at which the nominating shareholder is entitled to vote by following certain procedures. These procedures generally require that certain written information about the nominee and nominating shareholder be delivered or mailed and received at our principal executive offices, to the attention of our corporate secretary, not less than 120 calendar days in advance of the date of the notice of annual meeting is released to shareholders in connection with the previous year's annual meeting of shareholders.

In addition, the nominating committee will consider for inclusion in the board's annual slate of director nominees, candidates recommended by significant, long-term shareholders. A significant long-term shareholder is a shareholder, or group of shareholders, that beneficially owned more than 5 percent of our voting stock for at least two years as of the date the recommendation was made, and at the record date for the shareholder meeting. In order for such a nominee to be considered for inclusion with the board's slate, the nominating shareholder shall submit a timely nomination notice in accordance with the procedures above. The nominating shareholder should expressly indicate in the notice that such shareholder desires that the board and nominating committee consider the shareholder's nominee for inclusion with the board's slate of nominees for the meeting. The nominating shareholder and shareholder's nominee should undertake to provide, or consent to our obtaining, all other information the board and nominating
committee request in connection with their evaluation of the nominee.
A shareholder nominee submitted for inclusion in the board's slate of nominees should meet the criteria for a director described above. In addition, in evaluating shareholder nominees for inclusion in the board's slate of nominees, the board and nominating committee may consider all information relevant, in their business judgment, to the decision of whether to nominate a particular candidate for a particular board seat, taking into account the then-current composition of our board. The nominating committee would expect to use the same procedures to evaluate nominees for director whether recommended by a shareholder or recommended by another source. To date, we have not received any board nominee recommendations from shareholders.

Our board has determined that we are benefited by having a small board with directors with substantial relevant industry experience. The board does not anticipate any imminent changes to the composition of the board, but expects the nominating committee to consider diversity as well as relevant industry experience in identifying nominees for director in the future.

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The nominating committee continues to evaluate its policies and procedures regarding shareholder nominations in light of changing industry practices and regulation. The policies and procedures described above are subject to change. Shareholder Proxy Access
In 2018, the Board of Directors adopted revisions to our By-laws, putting into place balanced proxy access provisions consistent with public companies which have adopted proxy access and our Board governance structure and particular circumstances. We believe these provisions provide meaningful, effective and accessible proxy access rights to our shareholders, and balance those benefits against the risk of misuse or abuse by shareholders with special interests that are not shared by all or a significant percentage of our shareholders. Our proxy access provisions permit a shareholder, or a group of shareholders (an unlimited number), owning 5 percent or more of the Company's stock for at least three years to nominate and include in the Company's proxy materials for an annual meeting of shareholders up to 20 percent of the Board (or if such amount is not a whole number, the next lower whole number, but not less than one director) if such nominating shareholders and nominee satisfy the requirements set forth in our By-laws.

## Meetings of our Board of Directors

Our board of directors met eight times during the 2018 year. Each of our incumbent directors attended at least 75 percent of the total of all board and committee meetings he or she was entitled to attend during the 2018 year. It is our policy to encourage board members to attend each annual meeting of shareholders so that the board is adequately represented. As our annual meeting of shareholders is not held coincident with any board meeting so as not to distract from the business of the board, three of the members of our board of directors attended our annual shareholders' meeting in 2018.

Independent members of our board may be contacted by letter directed to the named member in care of Allegiant Travel Company, Corporate Secretary, 1201 N. Town Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89144. The sealed envelope will be sent on to the addressee by our corporate secretary.
Board Leadership Structure
We believe our chief executive officer, Maurice Gallagher, Jr., is best suited to serve as chairman of the board, as he is our largest shareholder and he has led the development and implementation of our business strategy since he acquired a majority interest in the Company in 2001. As chairman and chief executive officer, Mr. Gallagher provides clear direction for both the operations of our Company and board deliberations, and as a result of his stock ownership position and his service without any base compensation, his interests are fully aligned with those of our shareholders. Combining the roles of chairman and chief executive officer also provides a clear leadership structure for the management team.

Our board has established the role of lead independent director. The lead independent director is rotated among the independent board members as all of our outside directors have extensive relevant industry and executive experience. Gary Ellmer's tenure as lead independent director expired in April 2019 when Charles Pollard assumed the role. It is expected that each lead independent director will serve for a one-year term until his or her successor assumes those responsibilities. The lead director's responsibilities are to: (a) preside at and establish the agenda for executive sessions of the non-management directors and any other meetings of non-management directors; (b) communicate feedback to the chairman following executive sessions; (c) preside at all meetings where the chairman is not present or where the chairman could be perceived as having a conflict of interest; (d) consult with the chairman concerning board meeting agendas; (e) serve as liaison between the chairman and non-management directors as appropriate; (f) call meetings of the non-management directors, if appropriate; and (g) perform such other duties as may be delegated to him or her by the chairman, the full board or the independent directors.
The independent directors meet outside the presence of the executive officers on the board on a quarterly basis. Further, it is important to note that all of our directors are elected annually, the board receives updates on our operating strategies from the chief executive officer and other members of senior management at each quarterly board
meeting, and financial information is provided to directors on a monthly basis. The board believes all of the foregoing factors provide an appropriate balance between effective and efficient Company leadership and sufficient oversight by non-management directors.
Risk Oversight
While risk management is the primary responsibility of our management team, our board of directors is regularly involved in the oversight of the most material risks faced by us and monitors areas of risk as a routine board agenda item. Of the six members on the board, four are independent directors, and each of these has extensive experience in managing companies in the travel industry, having each served more than ten years in executive or finance positions with airlines. Bringing this exceptional depth of experience, the board is involved in all critical decisions regarding strategic direction, choice of aircraft, significant

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aircraft purchase transactions, finance transactions, the development of a hotel resort, application of cash to stock repurchases or payment of dividends, fuel hedging opportunities, any merger and acquisition opportunities, and any other material Company decisions outside of the ordinary course of our operations.

One area of risk oversight relates to our operations and the maintenance and safety of our aircraft. In this regard, we have arranged for two of our independent directors to regularly meet with our operations and maintenance personnel and to report back to the board as necessary. In addition, our senior operations personnel make a presentation to the board prior to each quarterly board meeting. The airline experience of our board allows it to meaningfully participate in the oversight of this risk area.

Our board committees, which are comprised solely of independent directors, also participate in risk oversight.
The audit committee oversees risks related to our financial reporting and internal controls with quarterly meetings, including private sessions with our outside auditing firm, our internal audit personnel, and management responsible for financial accounting. Audit committee approval is also required for any related party transactions.

Our board, and the compensation committee in particular, manages the risk inherent to our compensation programs. Our board believes the risk associated with our compensation programs has been reduced to a large extent as management's interests are aligned with those of our shareholders since the bonus plan is based on Company profitability, the value of option and stock appreciation right grants is based on stock price appreciation, and the vesting schedule associated with stock grants incentivizes long-term growth rather than short-term risk taking. In addition, the majority of executive compensation is paid through cash bonuses tied to our profitability and equity grants under which the value depends on the value of our stock. Further, our shareholders have not suffered any dilution from equity grants as the number of shares repurchased by us under stock repurchase plans over the years has exceeded the number of shares subject to equity grants.

Even when the oversight of a specific area of risk has been delegated to a committee, the full board may maintain oversight over such risks through regular reports from the committee to the full board.

## Environmental, Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility Practices

Our management understands a modern approach to running our Company must be aligned with a commitment to corporate social responsibility. We believe integrating our social and environmental values into our business as part of that commitment generates long-term value for our business, our shareholders and the community at large. In addition to our overall dedication to ethical and accountable business practices, our corporate social responsibility commitments include the areas of environmental, sustainability and community connections.
As of the end of November 2018, we had fully transitioned to an all-Airbus A320 series fleet with the addition of 24 Airbus A320 series aircraft and the retirement of 37 MD-80 aircraft during 2018. Having an all-Airbus fleet brings a number of advantages - from greater fuel efficiency, reducing our environmental footprint; to economies of scale in parts, resources and training across our system - bringing a smarter and more sustainable operation.
Unlike many air carriers focused on business travel, our strategy is to provide access to affordable travel for leisure travelers. We offer all non-stop flights, directly from small and medium-sized cities to leisure destinations, providing service in many markets abandoned or under-served by larger carriers. Many of the customers we serve would not have access to direct flights if not for Allegiant, by virtue of either geography or price point. Prior to our initiation of service on these routes, many of these passengers traveled to larger airports, where higher cost connecting flights were the only option. Allegiant's presence in these communities has been shown to reduce ticket prices among all carriers in the market, and to bring significant economic impact in the form of both direct and indirect jobs, related industry spending and visitor dollars. Also, as fuel consumption is greatest during take-off, the ability to travel to the destination with a single take-off, as opposed to at least two take-offs on connecting flights, is more fuel efficient.

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Our relations with our employees are critical to our success. We are committed to negotiating in good faith with our employee groups who have chosen to unionize. In recent years, we have reached collective bargaining agreements with our pilots and flight attendants who represent more than half of our workforce.
We are committed as a company to supporting the communities we serve through corporate giving, focused on three key areas: making travel accessible for those facing serious medical challenges; supporting community safety, preparedness and recovery; and supporting access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics ("STEM") education, and access to careers in aviation, particularly in underrepresented communities.

In the area of accessible travel for those with medical challenges, Allegiant has partnered with the Make-A-Wish ${ }^{\circledR}$ Foundation since 2012 and is currently recognized as a Wish Champion with more than $\$ 1$ million in annual support. We have flown more than 1,500 "wish kids" and their families to their wish destinations at no cost and also donate monthly proceeds from in-flight sales of Wingz Kids Snack Packs to the Foundation. Additionally, Allegiant renovated and donated 7,500 square feet of office space at our headquarters' campus to the Southern Nevada chapter of Make-A-Wish® Foundation, providing a rent-free home for the nonprofit organization's activities. Allegiant is also the only air carrier with a specially co-branded Make-A-Wish livery aircraft - which serves as a flying billboard reminding thousands daily of the nonprofit's work on behalf of children facing serious medical challenges. Separately, we continue to partner with the similarly-missioned Sunshine Foundation, providing travel for children and their families at no cost.
For the past five years, Allegiant has also partnered with the nonprofit organization The Arc, to co-host Wings for Autism events in communities we serve. These events are "rehearsals" designed to help families with children impacted by autism and developmental disabilities experience and demystify the travel process before they fly; and are also valuable training experiences for our crews. Nine events are planned for 2019 in communities across the country. We have similarly co-sponsored airport training sessions for training service dogs and their handlers in conjunction with Susquehanna Service Dogs of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.
To address our charitable priority of community preparedness, safety and recovery, Allegiant works closely with the American Red Cross - both in Southern Nevada and nationally, most recently providing financial and volunteer support for programs surrounding home fire awareness and prevention in Las Vegas, and flying supplies and workers to aid in hurricane relief in both Florida and Puerto Rico at no cost. In 2017, Allegiant donated more than 200 flights to ensure families of those killed or injured in the mass shooting on October 1, 2017, could travel to Las Vegas at no cost. Our team members also brought forward a fundraising drive matched by the Company, raising more than \$350,000 for the Las Vegas Victim's Fund.
In the area of STEM education, in 2018 Allegiant established a multifaceted partnership with a Las Vegas high school in support of its aviation magnet program, creating scholarships for outstanding students to continue their studies in aviation at a college, university or professional school; donating more than $\$ 400,000$ in aircraft parts for the school's maintenance program, and offering experiential and mentorship opportunities with Company leaders. In 2019 we established a similar program in partnership with an aviation magnet school in Fargo, North Dakota. Additionally, we have sponsored teams of high school, junior high and elementary students for travel to Robotics events, and partnered with Women in Aviation for Girls in Aviation Day events designed to spark interest in future aviation careers. Code of Ethics
We have adopted a Corporate Code of Conduct and Ethics (the "Code of Ethics") that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, as well as to other directors, officers and employees of ours. The Code of Ethics is posted on our website (www.allegiant.com) and is available in print free of charge to any shareholder who requests a copy. Interested parties may address a written request for a printed copy of the Code of Ethics to our senior counsel: Robert B. Goldberg, 1201 N. Town Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89144. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement regarding any amendment to, or a waiver of, a provision of the Code of Ethics for our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller or persons performing similar functions by posting such information on our website.

## BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The audit committee reports to our board of directors and is responsible for, among other things, considering the appointment and compensation of our independent auditors, reviewing their independence, reviewing with the auditors the plan and scope of the audit, monitoring the adequacy of reporting and internal controls, and discussing our financial statements and other financial information with management and the independent auditors. The audit committee acts under a written charter adopted and approved by our board of directors. Our board of directors has determined that none of the members of the audit committee has a relationship with our Company that may interfere with the audit committee's independence from our Company and management.

Management has primary responsibility for the financial statements and the overall reporting process, including the system of internal controls. The independent auditors audit our financial statements prepared by management, express an opinion as to whether those financial statements fairly present the financial position, results of operations and cash flows prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and discuss with the audit committee any issues they believe should be raised. Our independent auditors also issue an opinion as to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting.

In connection with the preparation and filing of our annual report on Form $10-\mathrm{K}$ for the year ended December 31, 2018:

The audit committee reviewed and discussed our audited financial statements with management. Management has (1) represented to the audit committee that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
The audit committee discussed with KPMG LLP, our independent auditors, the matters required to be discussed (2) by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) Auditing Standard No. 16 (Communications with Audit Committees) as amended.
The audit committee received the written disclosures and the letter from KPMG LLP required by the applicable requirement of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountants'
communications with the audit committee concerning independence, and has discussed with KPMG LLP the independence of that firm as our independent auditors. All audit and non-audit services provided by KPMG LLP were reviewed by the audit committee. The audit committee has considered whether the provision of non-audit services is compatible with maintaining the auditors' independence.
Based on the audit committee's review and discussions referred to above, the audit committee recommended to our
(4) board of directors that our audited financial statements be included in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

Gary Ellmer Linda A. Marvin Charles W. Pollard
The foregoing report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such Acts.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Our executive officers and their respective ages as of April 30, 2019, are as follows:

| Name | Age Position |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. 69 | Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board |  |
| John T. Redmond | 60 | President, Board Member |
| Scott Sheldon | 41 | Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer |
| Robert P. Wilson III | 49 | Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer |
| Gregory C. Anderson | 37 | Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer |

Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. - as a director, biographical information on Mr. Gallagher is located above.
John T. Redmond - as a director, biographical information on Mr. Redmond is located above.
Scott Sheldon was promoted to executive vice president in January 2017 and to chief operating officer in June 2017. He served as our chief financial officer from 2010 until April 2019. He served as a senior vice president from 2010 until January 2017, and served as our principal accounting officer from 2007 until 2010. Prior to that, Mr. Sheldon served in other accounting positions for us from 2004 until 2010. From 2001 until 2004, Mr. Sheldon worked in public accounting for the Perry-Smith, LLP regional public accounting firm in Sacramento, California.

Robert P. Wilson III was promoted to executive vice president and chief information officer in June 2018. He had served as interim chief information officer since January 2018 and as our senior vice president, information systems from February 2017 until December 2017; having previously served as vice president information systems from 2009 until February 2017. From 1995 until 2009, Mr. Wilson served in various positions for CMS Solutions, Inc., a software development and design firm that concentrated in airline operations, last serving as its vice president of operations. Earlier in his career Mr. Wilson worked in operational positions at three different airlines.

Gregory C. Anderson was promoted to executive vice president, chief financial officer in April 2019 and has served as our principal accounting officer since January 2015. He served as senior vice president, treasury from January 2017 to April 2019. He has worked in our accounting department since January 2010. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Anderson worked in corporate accounting for U.S. Airways from May 2009 until January 2010 and worked in public accounting for Ernst \& Young prior to joining U.S. Airways. Mr. Anderson is a certified public accountant.

None of our executive officers is related to any other executive officer or to any of our directors. Our executive officers are elected annually by our board of directors and serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

## Compensation Discussion and Analysis

The following discussion and analysis of compensation arrangements of our executive officers should be read together with the compensation tables and related disclosures in this report.

Our compensation committee is responsible for establishing and implementing our compensation philosophy. Our compensation committee is appointed by our board of directors. Under the compensation committee charter, our compensation committee has the responsibility for determining compensation for our chief executive officer, for any other executive officer who serves on the board and for any of our other named executive officers with a base salary of $\$ 200,000$ or more. Our compensation committee also approves all equity grants under our long-term incentive plan.

Our named executive officers for 2018 were:

Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. Chairman, Chief Executive Officer
John T. Redmond President
Scott Sheldon Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer
Robert P. Wilson III Executive Vice President, Chief Information Officer
Gregory C. Anderson Senior Vice President, Treasury, and Principal Accounting Officer

## Executive Summary of 2018 Company Performance

We believe 2018 was a consequential year in our Company's history. In particular, we achieved the following:
Fleet transition. As previously disclosed, we accelerated and completed the transition to an all Airbus fleet by the end of November 2018. This involved the addition of 24 Airbus series aircraft to our fleet during 2018 and the retirement of all 37 of our remaining MD-80 aircraft. We believe the fleet transition will improve profitability and operational reliability into the future.

Improved Operations. Despite some challenges due to late deliveries and aircraft inductions in the first half of 2018, we were able to achieve a 99.7 percent controllable completion and a 76.9 percent for A14 (arrivals within 14 2. minutes of scheduled time) for 2018, both of which were improvements from the previous year. For the first quarter of 2019, we have continued to improve with controllable completion of 100 percent and 79 percent on-time arrivals. These trends were evident when the named executive officer compensation for 2018 was finalized in February 2019.

Profitability and Cost Performance. During 2018, we extended our streak of profitable quarters to 64 quarters (now at 65 quarters after first quarter 2019). We achieved a 14.6 percent operating margin, which was once again first
3.among the public domestic airlines to which we compare ourselves. In addition, we lowered our cost per ASM excluding fuel during the year. We were able to achieve all this despite higher costs associated with our fleet transition.

[^0]Resort Development. During 2018, we continued to progress with our plans to construct the initial Sunseeker 6. Resorts Project. To evidence our commitment to the Project, we hired well-known industry veterans to operate the resort and to head food and beverage operations.

Travel and Leisure Company. During 2018, we took further steps to expand our travel and leisure brand by acquiring the Kingsway Country Club in Punta Gorda, Florida, by beginning to develop our first family entertainment centers and by expanding the number of golf courses served by our management solution by 99 percent to 590 courses by year end.

The following chart illustrates the continuing growth and profitability of our model over the past five years:

|  | For the Year Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |  |
|  |  | As recast (1) | As recast (1) |  |  |  |
| Financial Data: |  |  |  |  |  |  |

(1) We adopted ASU 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)" (the "New Revenue Standard") and ASU 2018-02, "Income Statement-Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220) effective January 1, 2018. As such, certain prior period results have been recast.
(2) Excluding impairment charges in 2014 and 2017.
(3) Excludes other aircraft types which have been retired as of December 31, 2018.

We have the longest period of continuous profitable quarters in the domestic airline industry, 65 quarters through March 31, 2019.

## Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

The primary objectives of the compensation committee of our board of directors with respect to executive compensation are to retain the current executive team, to attract additional talented people, to provide annual cash and stock incentives upon achievement of measurable corporate performance objectives, and to assure executives' incentives are aligned with shareholder value creation. In furtherance of these objectives, the compensation committee maintains compensation plans that tie the cash bonus portion of executives' total compensation to our financial and operating performance. Overall, the total compensation package is intended to create an executive compensation program: (i) providing for base compensation at below market levels, and (ii) rewarding our named executive officers for profitable performance and meeting Company objectives.

In 2016 and prior years, our compensation committee did not use any particular formula to determine executive compensation, but considered many factors. We have had a very successful approach to establishing and allocating bonus compensation throughout our history as we have generated industry-leading margins as a percentage of revenues and have grown the Company substantially. The majority of compensation for our senior executives has been based on performance with fixed base compensation accounting for less than 20 percent of total compensation in

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almost all cases. The annual bonus amounts awarded by the compensation committee have been derived with consideration of financial, operating and individual performance exclusively. This approach has enabled the Company to attract excellent talent and perhaps more importantly retain this superior talent throughout the organization.

Although the compensation committee has been pleased with the success of the Company and how compensation has been determined in years past, the compensation committee adopted a metrics-based approach to determine the cash bonuses to be

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payable to our named executive officers, including our chief executive officer, for 2017 and future years. The compensation committee believes this approach will provide greater transparency to investors and will formalize operational targets for our executive officers in addition to reiterating the financial goals on which management has always been focused. The cash bonus formula is discussed below.

Cash Bonus Formula. Our compensation committee has adopted a formulaic approach to the participation of our most senior executive officers in our annual cash bonus program. The formula is intended to motivate our executives to achieve specific company goals and to provide transparency to investors. Our compensation committee aligns executive compensation with our strategic plan by choosing a target performance level for each operational or financial goal (outlined in the 2018 Pay Metrics Table below) consistent with our business plan goals.

Our long-term success is highly dependent on running a reliable operation, keeping unit costs low, and achieving operating margins better than others in the industry. Each of these key strategic objectives is reflected in the goals of the Performance-Based Pay Plan.

## 2018 Performance-Based Plan Pay

For our named executive officers in 2018, the 2018 maximum cash bonus levels have been set as follows:
Name Maximum as a Percentage of Base Pay
Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. (1)
John T. Redmond Not eligible (2)
Scott Sheldon 500\%
Robert P. Wilson III $500 \%$
Gregory C. Anderson 500\%
Mr. Gallagher does not receive a base salary. His bonus eligibility is capped at four times the average bonus for the . eligible executive vice presidents.
2. Under his employment agreement, Mr. Redmond does not have any entitlement to participate in the cash bonus pool 2 during the term of his employment contract.

Incentive award payments may range from zero to 500 percent of each eligible executive officer's base salary based on the achievement of performance goals set by our compensation committee at the beginning of each year. Cash bonus eligibility of up to 500 percent of base salary has been established in recognition of the below-industry base salaries of the executive officers and a Company philosophy to have a large percentage of the executives' compensation at risk dependent on Company performance and to reward the executives for successful Company performance. For each performance metric, performance at the threshold level will result in a bonus of up to 100 percent of base salary for that metric, performance at the target level will result in a cash bonus of up to 300 percent of base salary for that metric, while the cash bonus could be as much as 500 percent for performance at or above the maximum level. The payout percentages are interpolated for performance between the levels identified, but if performance for a particular metric is below the threshold level, no payment will be made as to that metric. We realize these percentages may be higher than what other companies may use, but with significantly lower than industry base salaries, having a larger bonus potential is consistent with the risk-reward approach to executive compensation we have used successfully over many years. Further, the formula is intended to define the maximum amount of cash bonus for our named executive officers. Our compensation committee reserves the right to reduce the cash bonus determined under the formula for any executive officer based on the Company's profitability and bonus accrual, compensation trends, compensation levels at other airlines with comparable profitability or other factors. The compensation committee has made significant reductions to the amounts of cash bonuses calculated under the formula in each of the two years in which the formula has been applied.

## 2018 Pay Metrics

For 2018, the Performance-Based Pay Plan metrics were set as follows:

| Goal | Weighting | Threshold <br> Bonus | Target <br> Bonus | Maximum <br> Bonus |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Operating Margin - Rank compared to eight other domestic <br> airlines | $25 \%$ | 5 5th or 6th |  |  | 3rd or 4th | 1st or 2nd |
| :--- |

Annual target performance measures reflect financial and operational goals that are consistent with our business plan. Maximum goals correlate to superior performance, while threshold goals generally correlate to the minimum acceptable level of performance given that year's business plan. The A14 and completion measures were set at levels our compensation committee believed would drive continuous improvement. The cost per available seat mile excluding fuel and special items metric was similarly chosen to support our achievement of our business plan.

Our compensation committee believes this formulaic approach to cash bonuses provides a beneficial framework to encourage our senior executives to continue to achieve industry leading financial performance while also focusing on important operational goals to improve the customer experience.

In determining cash bonuses for the Company's executive officers for the 2018 year, the compensation committee reviewed the Company's actual performance for 2018 in comparison with the threshold, target and maximum levels established under the plan.

The Company's operating margin was 14.6 percent for 2018, which was the highest in the airline industry, earning the maximum bonus for this factor which equates to 125 percent of base salary.

The Company's CASM-ex for the year was $6.44 \not \subset$ (excluding non-airline operations). This was below the low end of our internal range, earning the maximum bonus for this factor which equates to 125 percent of base salary.

The third factor under the 2018 Cash Bonus Plan is A14, the percentage of flights arriving within 14 minutes of scheduled time. Our A14 was 76.9 percent for the year which fell between the target percentage of 75 percent and the maximum established percentage of 80 percent. As a result of this performance, the bonus earned for this factor was 95 percent of base salary.

The final factor is controllable completion (the percentage of flights completed excluding cancellations for reasons such as weather and not subject to management control). The actual performance for the year was 99.7 percent which exceeded the maximum established percentage resulting in a bonus of the maximum of 125 percent of base salary for this factor.

Adding the four components, each named executive officer subject to these factors under the cash bonus plan (only Messrs. Sheldon, Wilson and Anderson since Mr. Redmond does not receive cash bonuses under the plan) would be entitled to a cash bonus of up to $\$ 1,222,000$ for Mr. Sheldon and Mr. Wilson and up to $\$ 1,034,000$ for Mr. Anderson.

Under the plan, Mr. Gallagher's cash bonus could be as much as four times the average cash bonus under the formula for the executive vice presidents.

The cash bonuses for 2018 were discounted from the amounts determined under the formula as a result of the Company's reduced profitability and lower Company-wide bonus accrual for 2018 compared to 2017. In the case of named executive officers other than the chief executive officer, the cash bonus paid to these officers averaged less than 50 percent of the amount calculated under the formula. In the case of the chief executive officer, the cash bonus paid was only 17 percent of the calculated maximum amount under the formula.

## General Discussion

Our chief executive officer, Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., has a substantial equity position. Historically, he has chosen to serve without a base salary and expects to continue to serve without a base salary into the future. Mr. Gallagher is entitled to share in the cash bonus allocations. In 2018, the compensation committee also granted him stock-based awards in recognition of the Company's accomplishments for the year. For 2019 and subsequent years, Mr. Gallagher will be eligible to participate in our annual cash bonus plan up to the amount determined under the formula adopted by the compensation committee. We expect Mr. Gallagher will participate in future equity grants at the discretion of the compensation committee from year to year, and the amounts granted to him will depend on our profitability in relation to our expectations, other Company achievements and other relevant factors.

Mr. Redmond serves as our president and, in addition to helping to manage the airline, heads up the Company's development of its first Sunseeker Resort in Southwest Florida. Under Mr. Redmond's employment agreement, he devotes his full-time efforts to the Company and the stock grants to him constitute the entire compensation entitlement for him under his employment agreement. Mr. Redmond receives no base salary and no automatic eligibility to participate in the annual cash bonus plan. The initial equity grants must be earned by continuing service over the three-year vesting period as there is no acceleration of vesting beyond pro rata in the event of any employment termination or change in control. Mr. Redmond's agreement to serve without any entitlement to receive cash compensation confirms his commitment to the success of the Company as his compensation will be solely dependent on our equity value. For 2018, the Compensation Committee awarded Mr. Redmond a stock grant in the same amount as for the prior year. Consistent with our approach to be different from others in our industry, we have our two senior-most executives being paid without a base salary. As such, the interests of these executive officers are totally aligned with the interests of our shareholders.

In determining incentive compensation each year, the compensation committee considers, but does not benchmark compensation against, executive compensation levels at eight other publicly traded domestic airlines: Alaska Air Group, American Airlines Group, Delta Airlines, Hawaiian Holdings, JetBlue Airways Corp., Southwest Airlines Co., Spirit Airlines, Inc. and United Continental Holdings, Inc. When compared with CEO and president compensation of these other airlines for 2017 and 2016 (the last two years all information was available to our compensation committee when final 2018 compensation decisions were made), the average of the total compensation for our chief executive officer and president would have ranked last of the nine airlines (including Allegiant) despite our continuing profitability and progress toward major Company initiatives.

As we are focused on low costs as a company, our philosophy is to provide for lower than industry prevailing rates of base compensation but with opportunity to benefit from profitable operations in the form of cash bonuses and from stock value through equity awards. The base salary for our executive vice presidents in 2018 ( $\$ 260,000$ per year) was significantly less than the base salaries for similar executives at the other airlines considered, which ranged from $\$ 366,000$ to $\$ 747,000$ per year in 2017 based on their 2018 proxy statements.

Although our compensation committee does not benchmark our executive compensation against these other airlines, the committee does consider these industry compensation levels as these are the companies most likely to compete for our executive team. Based on these comparisons, our named executive officer compensation for 2018 was justified by our outstanding company performance for 2018, as we continued to be highly profitable and made significant progress on consequential Company goals as outlined above.

The cash bonus formula establishes the maximum cash bonuses for our named executive officers. The compensation committee substantially discounted these amounts to determine the 2018 cash bonus for each named executive officer. Each named executive officer also received a restricted stock grant as part of his total 2018 compensation. Total compensation increased 23 percent over 2017 for our chief executive officer, remained flat for our president and
increased between 8 percent and 11 percent for our other named executive officers who were also named executive officers last year.

We realize our stock price performance during 2018, in and of itself, does not justify executive compensation increases, but the stock price performance does not reflect the significant successes achieved by us toward our Company goals in 2018 as outlined above.

With these substantial accomplishments in these consequential areas during the year, our compensation committee approved cash bonus payments and stock grants which resulted in modest increases in total compensation for our named executive officers.

The compensation philosophy employed by the Company has been implemented by us without use of any outside compensation consultants.

As our shareholders approved our executive pay policies at our 2018 shareholders meeting, we have not implemented any changes to our pay policies in response to the shareholder vote. An advisory vote on executive compensation is being held again at this year's shareholder meeting.

Senior management makes recommendations to the compensation committee with respect to the total amount of cash bonuses to be paid, the allocation of the cash bonus pool among officers and employee groups and granting of stock-based awards to management personnel. The compensation committee typically asks Mr. Gallagher to participate in its deliberations concerning approval of cash bonuses payable and stock awards granted. The compensation committee members consider the recommendations from management, and also draw on the committee members' and the chief executive officer's substantial experience in managing companies, in approving bonus levels and stock-based awards.

We structure our executive compensation program to deliver a substantial majority of remuneration through incentives that drive both operating results and long-term value. During 2018, the substantial majority of each executive officer's pay was at risk as more than 73 percent of each active executive's pay was payable under the cash bonus plan or as long-term stock incentives. Illustrated below is the mix of components comprising 2018 compensation for the named executive officers in this report:

Name \& Principal Position During 2018
Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
John T. Redmond, President
Scott Sheldon, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Operating Officer
Robert P. Wilson III, Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer
Gregory C. Anderson, Senior Vice President, Treasury and Principal Accounting Officer

| Base | Cash | Long-term <br> Salary | Bonus <br> Incentive |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - | $28.9 \%$ | $70.2 \%$ | All Other <br> Compensation |
| - | - | $93.5 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ |
| $13.3 \%$ | $42.4 \%$ | $41.7 \%$ | $2.5 \%$ |
| $23.1 \%$ | $37.4 \%$ | $36.5 \%$ | $3.0 \%$ |
| $17.4 \%$ | $36.3 \%$ | $43.4 \%$ | $2.9 \%$ |

## Compensation Components

Compensation is broken out into the following components:
Base Salary. Neither Mr. Gallagher nor Mr. Redmond receives a base salary. The base salaries of our executive vice presidents and senior vice president, treasury are $\$ 260,000$ and $\$ 220,000$, respectively, per year. Consistent with our below industry base salary policy, the base salary level for these named executive officers remains approximately 50 percent below the average base salary for similar named executive officers at the other eight public domestic airlines based on their published 2017 information. These base salary levels are a function of our low cost strategy. Our named executive officers receive below market guaranteed pay but can profit from cash bonuses and equity awards dependent on the profitability and operating performance of the Company, aligning their interests with those of our shareholders.

Annual Discretionary Incentive Bonus Program. We structure our annual bonus compensation program to reward named executive officers, other management employees (our vice presidents, director level employees and managers) and other employees for our successful performance, and each individual's contribution to that performance. Depending on our profitability, cash bonuses may constitute a significant portion of our employees' total

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compensation. No cash bonus is earned unless our operating income exceeds 5 percent of our revenue for the year and, in that event, the total cash bonus pool will not exceed 10 percent of operating income. The final annual bonus pool amount is determined by our compensation committee after consideration of management recommendations and after our earnings release. Consistent with its determinations in previous years, the compensation committee approved a total bonus pool equal to approximately 9.5 percent of our operating income in 2018 . This percentage was higher than in years prior to 2017 as our pilots now fully participate in the bonus plan after the collective bargaining agreement went into effect in September 2016. The allocation of the bonus pool among groups of eligible employees and, for executive officers and other key employees, the amount of equity grants, have been approved by the compensation committee without regard to any objective, predetermined individual performance criteria. The compensation committee relies significantly on the recommendation of our chief executive officer with respect to the allocation of the bonus pool among our executive officers and other employee groups, and equity grants for our officers and managers. For 2017 and

2018, cash bonuses for named executive officers were limited based on the formulaic plan, but the cash bonuses paid were discounted substantially from the amounts determined under the formula.

For financial statement reporting purposes, the bonus is accrued throughout each year based on an estimated payment amount. Under our program, our named executive officers are eligible to share in the bonus pool in amounts determined subsequent to the end of each year. Compensation committee approval is required for bonuses payable to our chief executive officer, any executive serving on our board (Mr. Redmond) and any other named executive officers with an annual base salary of $\$ 200,000$ or more (Messrs. Sheldon, Wilson and Anderson for 2018). Generally, payments under this cash bonus program are contingent upon continued employment through the actual date of payment.

The compensation committee considered our profitability in 2018 in determining the amount of the bonus pool and the bonuses payable to our chief executive officer and the allocation of bonuses among our other executives and employees. In light of our lower profitability in 2018 compared to 2017, the compensation committee approved a decrease of the cash bonus pool from approximately $\$ 27.2$ million in 2017 to $\$ 25.6$ million in 2018, in each case, including company-wide profit sharing. Approximately 4,000 employees participated in the bonus pool in 2018.

In our service-based business, each employee's efforts contribute to our profitability. As such, all of our employees participate in the cash bonus pool. The cash bonus pool for 2018 included approximately $\$ 12.6$ million in cash bonuses paid in August 2018 and February 2019 to all employees in proportion to their base salaries. The amount payable under this portion of the bonus pool is based solely on Company performance and payouts to our employees are non-discretionary. The balance of the cash bonus was paid in the first quarter 2019 to members of the management team, in recognition of contributions made throughout the year. Employees other than our named executive officers received approximately 92 percent, 90 percent and 82 percent of the total cash bonus pool for 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

In recognition of the Company's performance in 2018, the compensation committee approved an $\$ 825,000$ cash bonus for our chief executive officer. This reflected a 45 percent reduction from the prior year's cash bonus in light of the Company's lower profitability in 2018 compared to 2017. The chief executive officer's cash bonus is capped by the cash bonus formula, but the approved cash bonus was only 17 percent of the cap under the formula used.

Our compensation committee believes the broad-based company-wide cash bonus plan has been very effective in motivating our employees to achieve the industry-leading results we have attained.

Although the cash base salaries combined with the bonuses of our other named executive officers may exceed those of certain similar officers in other companies within our general industry grouping, our compensation committee believes this to be warranted in light of our profitability and progress toward long-term initiatives in 2018 and the degree of at risk compensation dependent on Company performance.

For 2019, the compensation committee has reset the four metrics to determine the maximum cash bonus. The metrics in place under the Performance-Based Plan for 2019 will be operating margin ranking in the industry (same as for 2018); CASM - ex (for 2019, this will again be based on internally established projections since the Company does not publish its CASM - ex projections); controllable completion (with threshold performance at 99.0 percent, target performance at 99.3 percent and maximum performance at 99.6 percent); and A14 (percentage of flights arriving within 14 minutes of scheduled time) with threshold performance at 70 percent, target performance at 75 percent, and maximum performance at 80 percent.

Compensation of President. In September 2016, we reached an agreement with our board member John Redmond to become our president. Mr. Redmond's extensive experience in the hotel and hospitality industry has augmented our
commitment to be a travel and leisure company and to broaden our business beyond that just of an airline. Showing confidence in the future value of the Company, Mr. Redmond agreed to no base salary at all and 100 percent of his compensation in the form of equity - restricted stock and stock appreciation rights vesting over three years. In accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the full value of these equity grants was included as 2016 compensation for Mr. Redmond in the Summary Compensation Table, but the compensation will be earned by Mr. Redmond from these equity grants over the three-year vesting period. Under this employment agreement, Mr. Redmond has no other entitlement to base salary or bonus compensation over the three-year term of the employment agreement. In addition, the equity grants are not guaranteed in that there is no accelerated vesting of the equity grants in the event of a change in control and no acceleration of vesting other than on a pro rata basis on employment termination for any reason. As a result, any unvested portion of the equity grants will be forfeited upon the termination of Mr. Redmond's employment for any reason.

In recognition of his contributions to the organization as a whole and leading the effort to develop Sunseeker Resorts, including the hiring of industry veterans to lead the Resort and its food and beverage operations and the Sunseeker financing in first
quarter 2019, our compensation committee awarded Mr. Redmond with a grant of restricted stock for 2018 as shown in the Summary Compensation Table. The new grant is subject to vesting over three years.

Long-Term Incentive Program. We believe long-term performance is achieved through an equity ownership culture that encourages long-term performance by our executive officers. Our chief executive officer maintains a substantial equity stake in our company and is our largest shareholder. The compensation committee has decided to provide all of our executive officers with grants of stock-based awards to reward them for the successful operating results of our company and the operational, development and financing achievements during the year and to further incentivize them for future performance. In addition, each of our named executive officers more than satisfies our minimum stock ownership guidelines, assuring alignment between our executive officers and shareholders.

The compensation committee considers stock-based awards as part of the discretionary incentive program to our executive officers each year at the time the cash bonus allocations are finalized, after our earnings release for the year. Strike prices for options and SARs are established based on the market value of our stock at the time of grant when the final compensation decisions are made for the year. This will typically occur in February following the end of each year. Other than this annual evaluation of stock-based grants we would typically only consider additional stock-based grants coincident with a new hire or promotion of management personnel. In February 2019, we granted equity awards consisting of restricted stock to our named executive officers as part of their 2018 compensation package. In February 2018 and February 2017, we granted equity awards consisting of restricted stock to our named executive officers as part of their prior year compensation package. As these annual equity awards provide for a three-year vesting period with vesting occurring at the end of each year, the compensation to the executive officers remains at risk subject to their continuing employment with us.

In determining year-end 2018 incentive compensation for all executive officers, the compensation committee approved payment to our named executive officers (other than our chief executive officer and our president) of approximately 45 to 50 percent in cash (excluding the cash bonus payable to all employees based on their base salaries) and 50 to 55 percent in the value of equity grants. For 2018, the incentive compensation for our chief executive officer was paid less than 30 percent in cash and the balance in the form of an equity grant. The entire incentive compensation for our president was paid in the form of an equity grant. The use of equity grants as the largest portion of incentive compensation underscores the continuing alignment of the incentive compensation with the interests of our shareholders.

As equity grants have been made to our executive officers each year, the vesting schedule serves as incentive to remain with the Company because employment must continue from year to year to achieve additional vesting for equity grants within the past three years. Although the compensation committee has the authority to accelerate vesting of equity awards upon termination of employment or a change in control, our Long-Term Incentive Plan generally precludes vesting of performance-based awards beyond pro-rata or actual performance in the event of a change in control.

Our compensation committee determines the amount of equity grants in an attempt to provide meaningful incentives for the officers, but with consideration to the financial impact on our operating results. We have one of the lowest fixed cost cash compensation structures in our industry, as less than 20 percent of total pay for our named executive officers has generally been paid by way of base salary for the past three years. The compensation committee rewards our executives primarily with cash bonuses and equity awards which typically make up the remaining approximately 80 percent of total compensation - with year-end compensation generally half or less in cash bonuses and the balance in equity awards. We have used this approach for many years. This approach has fostered a culture of performance, in the opinion of the compensation committee and the board, and aligns the interests of our executives with our shareholders.

Our variable compensation approach has been extremely successful over the years in providing our management with the appropriate incentive to maximize shareholder returns. The philosophy provides sufficient cash compensation with a low base fixed cash compensation but also recognizes the appropriate incentive to the executive team to encourage outcomes favorable to shareholders.

We do not restrict any individual executive's ability to hedge the economic risk of stock ownership.
Risk Mitigation Policies. Our board has approved the following compensation risk mitigating policies:
Minimum security ownership of management - to assure proper alignment of the interests of management and those of our shareholders, our board has established minimum stock ownership guidelines for our named executive . officers in an amount equal to three times base salary for our chief executive officer and two times base salary for our other named executive officers.

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Clawback policy - our Compensation Recoupment Policy applies to our executive officers. The policy provides that the compensation committee may require a covered person who engages in detrimental conduct (e.g., fraud or willful misconduct) to reimburse us for all, or a portion of, any cash bonus, incentive payment, equity-based award or other similar compensation received by him or her during the 12 months preceding such detrimental conduct. In addition, if we need to restate our reported financial results to correct a material accounting error, the compensation committee may seek to recover or cancel the excess portion of incentive compensation paid (including through cancellation of equity awards) during the 36 -month period preceding the filing of the restatement that is deemed by us to be unearned.
3.Long-Term Incentive Plan - our 2016 long-term incentive plan includes the following risk mitigation provisions:
$>$ Minimum vesting requirements - equity grants must have a minimum one-year vesting requirement except that up to five percent of the shares available under the plan may be exempt from this requirement in the discretion of our board
$>$ Repricing of options is prohibited - we have never repriced any options or stock appreciation rights
$>$ Option and stock appreciation right pricing - the exercise price for options or stock appreciation rights will not be less than the closing price of our stock on the date of grant. This is also consistent with our prior practice
$>$ Granting of performance-based awards - the holder will be entitled to pro-rated vesting on a change in control or vesting based on actual performance to the date of change in control unless the award agreement provides otherwise. Our compensation committee will retain discretion as to acceleration of vesting of time-based awards on a change in control.

Other Compensation. Our officers participate in employee benefits generally available to our full-time employees. We have no current plans to make changes to the levels of benefits and perquisites provided for our named executive officers.

401(k) Plan. We maintain a 401 (k) retirement plan that qualifies as a defined contribution plan under Internal Revenue Code section 401(a) and includes a cash or deferred arrangement that qualifies under Code Section 401(k). The plan was established and is maintained for the exclusive benefit of our eligible employees and their beneficiaries. We make matching contributions for active participants equal to 100 percent of their permitted contributions, up to a maximum of 3 percent of the participant's annual salary plus 50 percent of their contributions between 3 percent and 5 percent of their annual salary. Enhanced matching contributions apply to our pilots under our collective bargaining agreement. Eligible employees are immediately 100 percent vested in their individual contributions and "safe harbor" matching contributions. Neither Mr. Gallagher nor Mr. Redmond participate in the 401(k) plan.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan. The Allegiant Travel Company 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan or "ESPP" is intended to meet the requirements of an "employee stock purchase plan," as defined in Section 423 of the Internal Revenue Code. The purpose of the ESPP is to provide eligible employees of our Company with the opportunity to acquire an equity interest in the Company through participation in a payroll deduction-based employee stock purchase plan that is tax qualified under Code Section 423. Under the ESPP, our employees have an opportunity to acquire our common stock at a specified discount (currently a 15 percent discount) from the fair market value as permitted by Code Section 423. The compensation committee views the implementation of the ESPP as a positive development for shareholders, as it more closely aligns the interests of our employees with the interests of our shareholders. Neither Mr. Gallagher nor Mr. Redmond participate in the ESPP.

Compensation Risk. The compensation committee has determined that our compensation programs do not pose significant risk to our company as management's interests are aligned with those of our shareholders. All employees
are eligible to participate in the cash bonus program such that employees in any group or function are not included to the exclusion of employees in any other group or function. Further, the bonus pool depends on company-wide profitability such that rewards are based on the common goal of profitability. While the cash bonus program encourages short-term profitability, equity based grants to management employees under the long-term incentive plan encourage long-term success, further reducing compensation risk.

Current Frequency of Shareholder Advisory Votes on the Compensation of Our Named Executive Officers. Our board of directors has determined to include a shareholder advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers in our proxy materials every year. An annual vote was established in response to the outcome of the "say on pay frequency" advisory vote at the 2017 shareholders' meeting at which 59.8 percent of our shareholders voting on the issue voted in favor of annual votes.

An advisory vote on "say on pay" for our named executive officers will occur at every annual meeting of shareholders. The next "say on pay frequency" vote is scheduled for our 2023 annual shareholders' meeting.

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## Compensation of Named Executive Officers and Other Information

The following table shows the cash compensation paid by us, as well as certain other compensation paid or accrued, during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 through 2018 to our named executive officers. The table does not include a column for change in pension value or non-qualified deferred compensation earnings as none of the named executive officers received any such compensation in the years disclosed.

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

| Name and Principal Position During 2018 | Year Salary |  | Bonus (1) | Stock | All Other | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Awards $(2)(3)$ | Compensation <br> (4) |  |
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. | 2018 | \$ |  | \$825,000 | \$ 1,999,959 | \$ 25,348 | \$2,850,307 |
| Chief Executive Officer | 2017 | - | 1,500,000 | 800,064 | 20,549 | 2,320,613 |
|  | 2016 | - | 2,850,000 | 699,948 | 21,257 | 3,571,205 |
| John T. Redmond (5) | 2018 | - | - | 1,749,964 | 122,646 | 1,872,610 |
| President | 2017 | - | - | 1,749,973 | 107,152 | 1,857,125 |
|  | 2016 | - | 250,000 | 9,379,248 | 71,050 | 10,175,198 |
| Scott Sheldon | 2018 | 260,000 | 811,011 | 999,979 | 66,240 | 2,137,230 |
| Executive Vice President, Chief Financial | 2017 | 254,583 | 813,100 | 800,064 | 50,681 | 1,918,428 |
| Officer, Chief Operating Officer | 2016 | 195,000 | 719,818 | 2,101,948(6) | 36,491 | 3,053,257 |
| Robert P. Wilson III (7) | 2018 | 253,333 | 410,650 | 399,936 | 32,747 | 1,096,666 |
| Executive Vice President, Chief Information Officer |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gregory C. Anderson | 2018 | 220,000 | 459,317 | 550,017 | 37,063 | 1,266,397 |
| Senior Vice President, | 2017 | 216,250 | 0 461,138 | 450,007 | 41,059 | 1,168,454 |
| Principal Accounting Officer | 2016 | 170,833 | 3 442,239 | $\begin{aligned} & 1,801,970 \\ & (8) \end{aligned}$ | 23,556 | 2,438,598 |

Cash bonuses are reported in the year to which they relate, and are paid no later than the end of the first quarter of the following year. In the case of Messrs. Sheldon, Wilson and Anderson, the bonus column includes cash bonuses
paid to them under the profit sharing portion of our cash bonus plan under which all employees participate in proportion to base salaries.
2.Equity grants constituting part of the incentive bonus plan are reported in this table in the year to which they relate. Represents the grant date fair value of restricted stock awards granted, as calculated in accordance with stock-based
3. compensation accounting standards. The fair value of each of these awards is based on the closing share price of our stock on the grant date. Although the table above indicates the full grant date value of the awards in the year in which the compensation is considered, the restricted stock granted vests over a three year or 42-month period. All Other Compensation consists of our matching contributions under the $401(\mathrm{k})$ plan for all officers participating in the plan, cash dividends paid on shares of unvested restricted stock and other compensation not reported in other columns of this table. No amount is included in this column for the value of all perquisites and personal benefits, including flight benefits, as these benefits did not exceed $\$ 10,000$ for any executive officer.
5. Mr. Redmond was elected as our President in September 2016 and served as an independent director prior to that. Mr. Redmond's total compensation reflected in the Table includes $\$ 25,000$ of cash director fees paid in 2016 (under the heading "All Other Compensation") and $\$ 151,000$ as the grant date value of restricted stock granted to him as a director on the date of our annual shareholder meeting in 2016 (included under the heading "Stock Awards").

Further, restricted stock ( $\$ 8,527,800$ of grant date value) and SARs awards ( $\$ 474,900$ of value) granted to Mr. Redmond in conjunction with his employment agreement, are subject to vesting over three years in accordance with the terms of his employment agreement and do not constitute part of the incentive bonus plan.

The $\$ 2,101,948$ value shown for stock awards to Mr. Sheldon in 2016 includes (i) $\$ 699,948$ of value attributable to 6.the grant of restricted stock as part of his annual compensation and (ii) $\$ 1,402,000$ of value from a special retention stock grant in November 2016 which vests over 42 months.
Mr. Wilson was promoted to executive vice president, chief information officer in June 2018 and became an
${ }_{7}$ executive officer at that time. All of Mr. Wilson's 2018 compensation is shown despite not becoming an executive

- officer until June 2018. Compensation for years prior to 2018 are not shown for Mr. Wilson as he did not serve as an executive officer during that period.
The $\$ 1,801,970$ value for stock awards for Mr. Anderson in 2016 includes (i) $\$ 399,970$ of value attributable to the 8. grant of restricted stock as part of his annual compensation and (ii) $\$ 1,402,000$ of value from a special retention grant in November 2016 which vests over 42 months.

Mr. Gallagher serves without base compensation as a result of his substantial equity interest. Mr. Redmond serves without base compensation in accordance with the terms of his employment agreement.

The base salaries for other named executive officers are reviewed and subject to change from year to year. The base salary of Mr. Sheldon was increased to $\$ 260,000$ per year effective in 2017 in connection with his promotion to executive vice president and the base salary for Mr . Anderson was increased to $\$ 220,000$ per year in connection with his promotion to senior vice president, treasury in January 2017.

The compensation committee approves all base salary, bonus payments and other compensation payments to executive officers serving on our board of directors and to any other named executive officers making $\$ 200,000$ or more per year in base salary.

For 2018, each executive officer other than Mr. Redmond received a cash bonus under our annual discretionary incentive bonus program. No bonus is earned unless our operating income exceeds 5 percent of our revenue for the year and, in that event, the bonus pool will not exceed 10 percent of operating income. The final bonus pool amount is determined by our compensation committee after review of the year-end financial statements and after consideration of management recommendations. Each executive officer's allocation of the bonus pool for 2018 is determined by the compensation committee as described under "Compensation Discussion and Analysis." In determining year-end 2018 incentive compensation for our executive officers other than our chief executive officer and our president, the compensation committee approved payment of 50 percent or more in the value of equity grants and the balance in cash.

In 2016, we introduced an employee profit sharing program whereby every employee receives a semi-annual bonus (2018 amounts paid in August 2018 and February 2019) which is based on our profitability and each employee is allocated an equal percentage of their base salary based on the total bonus pool. The percentage for 2018 was 4.2 percent.

Other compensation includes cash dividends paid on unvested restricted stock. Other compensation also includes matching contributions under our $401(\mathrm{k})$ plan. The amount of matching contribution paid for each executive officer depends on his salary reductions paid into the 401 (k) plan.

## CEO Pay Ratio

In accordance with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), and the rules of the SEC, the Company is providing the following information about the relationship of the median of the annual total compensation of all employees of the Company and the annual total compensation of the Company's CEO.

For 2018, the Company's last completed fiscal year:
The median of the annual total compensation of all employees of the Company (other than the CEO) was $\$ 50,047$; The annual total compensation of the Company's CEO, as reported in the above Summary Compensation Table, was \$2,850,307; and
Based on this information, for 2018, the ratio of the annual total compensation of the Company's CEO to the median of the annual total compensation of all employees was reasonably estimated to be 57 to 1 .

To identify the median of the annual total compensation of all employees of the Company, as well as to determine the annual total compensation of the Company's median employee and its CEO, the Company took the following steps:

The Company determined that, as of December 31, 2018, its employee population, for purposes of determining the median employee under the SEC rules, consisted of approximately 4,814 individuals, whether employed on a full-time, part-time, or temporary basis.

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The Company used a consistently applied compensation measure to identify its median employee by comparing the amount of compensation reflected in its payroll records, as reported to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") on Form W-2 for 2018.
The Company identified its median employee by consistently applying this compensation measure to all of its employees included in its analysis. The Company did not make any cost of living adjustments in identifying the median employee. The Company annualized the compensation for its permanent employees who were not employed for all of 2018.
After the Company identified its median employee, it combined all of the elements of such employee's compensation for the 2018 year in accordance with the requirements of Item 402(c)(2)(x) of Regulation S-K, resulting in annual total compensation of $\$ 50,047$.

Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2018
The following table describes grants of plan-based awards to our named executive officers during 2018:

Name

| Stock |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| awards: | Grant |
| number | date fair |
| of | value of |
| shares | stock |
| of stock | awards |
| (\#)(1) | $(\$)(2)$ |

Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. 2/8/2018 5,083 \$800,064
John T. Redmond $\quad 2 / 8 / 2018 \quad 11,118 \quad 1,749,973$
Scott Sheldon 2/8/2018 5,083 800,064
Robert P. Wilson III 2/8/2018 2,859 450,007
Gregory C. Anderson 2/8/2018 2,859 450,007

1. Grant of restricted stock on February 8, 2018 at a grant date fair value of $\$ 157.40$ per share as part of 2017 compensation.
2. As determined as set forth in Note 11 to our consolidated financial statements. Although the table above indicates
3. the full grant date value of the awards, the restricted stock awards granted vest over a three year period.

Our compensation committee considers grants of restricted stock, stock options and SARs to our executive officers annually. The number of shares granted is not based on any specific percentage of the total compensation of the executive officer.

The restricted stock granted in 2018 is subject to a three-year vesting schedule to encourage continued employment by the executive officers.

In February 2019, we granted to our executive officers shares of restricted stock as part of their 2018 compensation packages. The value of these grants is reflected in the Summary Compensation Table as part of each executive officer's 2018 compensation. The value of the equity grants in February 2018 and 2017 is reflected in the Summary Compensation Table as part of each executive officer's 2017 and 2016 compensation, respectively.

Outstanding Equity Awards at Year End
The following table summarizes the number of shares underlying outstanding equity incentive plan awards for each named executive officer as of December 31, 2018:

| Name | Shares underlying unexercised Options/SARs exercisable (\#) | Shares underlying unexercised Options/SARs unexercisable (\#) | Option/SA exercise price (\$) | Option/SAR expiration date | Shares of stock not vested (\#) | Market value of shares of stock not vested (\$)(1) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Maurice J. <br> Gallagher, Jr. | 9,737 (2) |  | 108.59 | 3/6/2019 |  |  |
|  | 6,089 (3) |  | 181.47 | 2/25/2020 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1,286(5) \\ & 2,684(6) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 128,883 \\ & 268,990 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  | 5,083 (7) | 509,418 |
| John T. <br> Redmond | 10,000 (3) | 5,000 (4) | 146.03 | 9/9/2021 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 20,000(8) \\ & 2,684(6) \\ & 11,118(7) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2,004,400 \\ & 268,990 \\ & 1,114,246 \end{aligned}$ |
| Scott Sheldon | 6,089 (3) |  | 181.47 | 2/25/2020 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1,286 (5) | 128,883 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 5,000 (9) | 501,100 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2,684 (6) | 268,990 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 5,083 (7) | 509,418 |
| Robert P. <br> Wilson III | 3,045 (3) |  | 181.47 | 2/25/2020 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 643 (5) | 64,441 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3,750 (9) | 375,825 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1,534 (6) | 153,737 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2,859 (7) | 286,529 |
| Gregory C. <br> Anderson | 3,349 (3) |  | 181.47 | 2/25/2020 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 750 (5) | 75,165 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 5,000 (9) | 501,100 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1,534 (6) | 153,737 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2,859 (7) | 286,529 |

1. Based on our closing stock price of $\$ 100.22$ on December 31, 2018.
2.These options were vested as of December 31, 2018.
3.These SARs, which may only be settled in cash, were vested as of December 31, 2018.
4.These SARs, which may only be settled in cash, will vest on September 9, 2019.
5.This restricted stock vested on February 17, 2019.
2. Unvested restricted stock vesting one-half on each February 21, 2019 and 2020.
7.Unvested restricted stock vesting one-third on each of February 8, 2019, 2020 and 2021.
3. Unvested restricted stock vesting semi-annually on each of March 9 and September 9, 2019.
4. Unvested restricted stock vesting one-half on each of May 7, 2019 and 2020.

## Option/SAR Exercises and Stock Vested Table

The following table summarizes the number of option/SARs awards exercised and stock awards vested by our named executive officers in 2018 and the value realized on option/SARs exercise or stock award vesting:

|  | Option/SAR Awards <br> Shares <br> acquired <br> on Value realized on exercise (\$) exercise <br> (\#) | Stock Awards Shares acquired |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | on | Value realized on vesting (\$) |
|  |  | vesting |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. | 12,645 988,308 (1) | 1,285 | 214,595 (2) |
|  |  | 1,341 | 225,623 (3) |
|  |  | 551 | 93,202 (4) |
| John T. Redmond |  | 1,341 | 225,623 (3) |
|  |  | 10,000 | 1,743,000 (5) |
|  |  | 10,000 | 1,325,500 (6) |
| Scott Sheldon |  | 1,285 | 214,595 (2) |
|  |  | 1,341 | 225,623 (3) |
|  |  | 551 | 93,202 (4) |
|  |  | 2,500 | 399,000 (7) |
| Robert P. Wilson III |  | 643 | 107,381 (2) |
|  |  | 766 | 128,880 (3) |
|  |  | 276 | 46,685 (4) |
|  |  | 1,875 | 299,250 (7) |
| Gregory C. Anderson |  | 750 | 125,250 (2) |
|  |  | 766 | 128,880 (3) |
|  |  | 303 | 51,252 (4) |
|  |  | 2,500 | 399,000 (7) |

1. Based on proceeds from sale of shares less exercise price.
2. Based on our closing stock price of $\$ 167.00$ on February 16,2018 , the last trading day prior to the date of vesting.
3. Based on our closing stock price of $\$ 168.25$ on February 21, 2018, the date of vesting.
4. Based on our closing stock price of $\$ 169.15$ on February 23, 2018, the last trading day prior to the date of vesting.
5.Based on our closing stock price of $\$ 174.30$ on March 9,2018 , the date of vesting.
5. Based on our closing stock price of $\$ 132.55$ on September 7, 2018, the last trading day prior to the date of vesting.
6. Based on our closing stock price of $\$ 159.60$ on May 7,2018 , the date of vesting.

## Employee Benefit Plans

Long-Term Incentive Plan
Our Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2016 Plan") was adopted by our board of directors and approved by the shareholders in 2016.

The individuals eligible to participate in our 2016 Plan include our officers and other employees, our non-employee board members and any consultants we engage.

Our 2016 Plan is administered by the compensation committee. This committee determines which eligible individuals are to receive stock-based awards, the time or times when such stock-based awards are to be made, the number of shares subject to each such grant, the status of any granted option as either an incentive stock option or a non-statutory stock option under the

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federal tax laws, and the terms and conditions of each award including, without limitation, the vesting schedule to be in effect for the option grant or stock issuance and the maximum term for which any granted option is to remain outstanding, provided that no option term may exceed ten years measured from the date of grant.

Vesting of any option grant is contingent on continued service with us. Upon the cessation of an optionee's service, any unvested options will terminate and will be forfeited. Any vested, but unexercised options (i) will terminate immediately if the optionee is terminated for misconduct, or (ii) if the cessation of service is other than for misconduct, will remain exercisable for such period of time as determined by the compensation committee at the time of grant and set forth in the documents evidencing the option. The compensation committee has the discretion, however, at any time while the option remains outstanding to (i) extend the period of time that the option may be exercisable following the cessation of an optionee's service (but not beyond the term of the option) and (ii) permit the optionee to exercise options following a cessation of service that were not vested at the time of the cessation of service.

The exercise price for the shares of the common stock subject to option grants made under our 2016 Plan may be paid in cash or in shares of common stock valued at fair market value on the exercise date.

Some of the terms of the 2016 Plan intended to protect and promote the interests of our shareholders are:
Limit on total shares available for future awards -The maximum number of new shares of common stock available for awards under the 2016 Plan is $2,000,000$ shares and, as a result of the fungible ratio described below, a fewer number of shares will be available for issuance under the 2016 Plan if we continue to use restricted stock. Stock appreciation rights which may only be settled in cash will not count against this limit.

Fungible Ratio - The 2016 Plan applies a fungible ratio such that a full-value award, such as a restricted stock grant or restricted stock unit grant, will be counted at 2 times its number for purposes of the plan limit. As a result, only a maximum of $1,000,000$ shares of restricted stock may be issued under the 2016 Plan. If a combination of restricted stock grants and stock options (or stock-settled stock appreciation rights) is used, the maximum number would be between $1,000,000$ and $2,000,000$ shares.

Certain shares not available for future awards - Any shares used by a participant to pay the exercise price or required tax withholding for an award will not be available for future awards under the 2016 Plan. The full number of stock-settled stock appreciation rights will be counted against the plan limit even if a fewer number of shares are delivered upon exercise.

No discounted options or stock appreciation rights - All stock options and stock appreciation rights must be granted with an exercise price or grant price of not less than the fair market value of the common stock on the grant date. As a result, the 2016 Plan prohibits discounted options or stock appreciation rights.

Prohibition on repricing - The 2016 Plan prohibits the repricing of stock options and stock appreciation rights (and other actions that have the effect of repricing). We have never repriced any stock options or stock appreciation rights.

Plan administration - The compensation committee, comprised solely of non-employee directors, administers the 2016 Plan.

Vesting acceleration on a change in control - In the event of a change in control, the vesting of performance-based awards may not be accelerated except to the extent based on actual results through the date of change in control or on a pro rata basis to reflect the portion of the applicable performance period that has elapsed, unless the award agreement provides otherwise. Vesting of time-based awards on a change in control is not accelerated under any
outstanding award agreements.
Minimum vesting period for awards - The 2016 Plan provides that no awards will vest prior to one year after grant (or, in the case of those awards that vest upon the achievement of performance goals, a minimum performance period of one year) except that the compensation committee may provide for earlier vesting upon a participant's termination of employment, death, disability or upon a change in control, subject to the above requirement for performance-based awards. The minimum vesting period need not apply for grants of up to five percent of the plan limit to the extent so designated by the compensation committee.

Clawback - The 2016 Plan refers to our executive compensation recoupment policy and provides that awards are subject to the application of that policy and other requirements of law.

Limit on individual grant - No award for more than 100,000 shares may be granted to any individual in any calendar year.

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Limits on transferability of awards - The 2016 Plan does not permit options or other awards to be transferred to third parties for value or other consideration.

For accounting purposes, compensation expense related to equity based awards under the 2016 Plan is measured and recognized in accordance with stock-based compensation accounting standards.

## Potential Payments upon Termination of Employment and Change in Control

Under his employment agreement and related equity grant agreements, John Redmond received equity grants of 60,000 shares of restricted stock and stock appreciation rights with respect to 15,000 shares with an exercise price equal to $\$ 146.03$ per share. The restricted stock vests in semi-annual installments over a three-year period subject to pro rata acceleration upon death, disability, termination of employment without cause or upon a resignation with good reason. The stock appreciation rights vest in annual installments over a three-year period subject to pro rata acceleration upon death, disability, termination of employment without cause or upon a resignation with good reason. If such a termination, resignation, death or disability had occurred on December 31, 2018, Mr. Redmond would have realized approximately $\$ 625,673$ from a pro rata acceleration of vesting (through the assumed December 31, 2018 termination date) of his theretofore unvested restricted stock ( 6,243 shares), based on the $\$ 100.22$ closing stock price on that date. As all of Mr. Redmond's stock appreciation rights have an exercise price in excess of the then current market price, the acceleration of any of his stock appreciation rights would not have resulted in any realization of value to him. In addition, he would continue to receive fringe benefits for a six-month period following any such termination. Under the employment agreement, Mr. Redmond has agreed to a nonsolicitation of employees during his employment and for two years thereafter and a nondisclosure of confidential information during his employment and for a period of three years thereafter.

## Director Compensation

The members of our board of directors receive an annual retainer of $\$ 20,000$ per year plus an additional $\$ 5,000$ for each meeting attended and will also be reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses.

Any new director will receive an initial grant of 1,000 shares of restricted stock on the date such individual joins the board. The restricted stock will vest over a period of two years upon the director's completion of each year of board service over the two-year period measured from the grant date.

In addition, on the date of each annual shareholders' meeting, each board member (other than executive officers) who is to continue to serve as a board member will automatically be granted 1,000 shares of restricted stock, provided such individual has served on our board for at least six months. The restricted shares subject to each annual automatic grant will vest upon the director's completion of one year of board service measured from the grant date.

The following table illustrates the compensation earned or paid to our non-management directors during 2018:

| Name | Fees |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Earned or Paid in Cash (1) | Stock <br> Awards <br> (2) | Total |
| Montie Brewer | \$40,000 | \$138,850 | \$178,850 |
| Gary Ellmer | 40,000 | 138,850 | 178,850 |
| Linda A. Marvin | 40,000 | 138,850 | 178,850 |
| Charles W. Pollard | 40,000 | 138,850 | 178,850 |

1. Excludes expense reimbursements. We reimburse our directors for expenses incurred in attending board meetings. 2. Represents the grant date fair value of restricted stock awards granted to each director in 2018 based on the closing stock price on the date of grant. All restricted stock granted to directors in 2018 will vest in 2019.

In 2018, no director received $\$ 10,000$ or more in aggregate perquisites or other personal benefits, including the value of flight benefits. We do not provide tax gross-up payments to members of our board of directors.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation
No member of our compensation committee serves as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as members of our board of directors or compensation committee.

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## REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

The compensation committee is responsible for, among other things, reviewing and approving salary, bonus and other compensation for our executive officers, and setting the overall compensation principles that guide the committee's decision-making. The compensation committee has reviewed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis ("CD\&A") included in this report and discussed it with management. Based on the review and discussions with management, the compensation committee recommended to our board of directors that the CD\&A be included in this report.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Montie Brewer Gary Ellmer Charles W. Pollard
The foregoing report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this report into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such Acts.

## RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Since January 1, 2018, we have not been a party to any transaction in which the amount involved exceeded $\$ 120,000$ and in which any of our directors or executive officers, any holder of more than 5 percent of our capital stock or any member of their immediate families had a direct or indirect material interest.

In December 2017, the Company completed a transaction with ISM Connect, LLC ("ISM"), an entity in which the Company's Chairman and CEO owns a majority interest. In exchange for a noncontrolling minority interest in ISM, the Company licensed the right to use certain portions of its internally developed software, but strictly limited to ISM's digital media signage business. The Company retains all rights in the software without restriction. This interest has been valued at $\$ 2.3$ million and no subsequent transactions with ISM are expected.

All future transactions, including loans, if any, between us and our officers, directors and principal shareholders and their affiliates and any transactions between us and any entity with which our officers, directors or five percent shareholders are affiliated, will be approved by our audit committee and will be on terms no less favorable to us than could be obtained from unaffiliated third parties.

## PROPOSAL NO. 2

## ADVISORY (NON-BINDING) VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act adopted in 2010, we are required to periodically include in our proxy statement and to present at the meeting a non-binding shareholder vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement.

We are asking our shareholders to indicate their support for our named executive officer compensation as described in this proxy statement. This proposal, commonly known as a "say-on-pay" proposal, gives you as a shareholder the opportunity to express your views on our named executive officers' compensation. This vote is not intended to address any specific element of our compensation programs, but rather to address our overall approach to the compensation of our named executive officers described in this proxy statement. To that end, we are asking our shareholders to vote "FOR" the following resolution at the 2019 annual meeting of shareholders:

RESOLVED, that the Company's shareholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company's proxy statement for the 2019 annual meeting of shareholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the 2018 Summary Compensation Table and the other related tables and disclosures.

As provided by law, this vote will not be binding on our board of directors and may not be construed as overruling a decision by our board or create or imply any additional fiduciary duty on the board. The vote will not affect any compensation paid or awarded to any executive.

The purpose of our compensation policies and procedures is to attract and retain experienced, highly qualified executives critical to our long-term success and enhancement of shareholder value.

## Vote Required

The resolution will be approved if the number of votes cast in favor of the resolution exceeds the number of votes cast in opposition to the resolution. Abstentions and broker "non-votes" will not have any effect on the proposal to approve executive compensation as disclosed in this proxy statement.

Because your vote is advisory, it will not be binding upon us, the compensation committee or our board. However, our compensation committee and our board value the opinions of our shareholders and to the extent there is any significant vote against our compensation practices for our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement, we will consider our shareholders' concerns and the compensation committee will evaluate whether any actions are necessary to address those concerns when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

Our board of directors believes our compensation policies and procedures achieve our objectives and unanimously recommends that you vote FOR the approval of this resolution. Proxy holders will vote all duly submitted proxies FOR ratification unless duly instructed otherwise.

PROPOSAL NO. 3

## RATIFICATION OF THE SELECTION OF

## INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The audit committee of our board of directors has selected KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, to audit our financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2019. At the meeting, our shareholders will be asked to ratify the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accountants for 2019. KPMG has served as our independent registered public accounting firm since 2016.

Although there is no requirement we submit the appointment of independent registered public accountants to shareholders for ratification or that the appointed auditors be terminated if the ratification fails, our audit committee will consider the appointment of other independent registered public accountants if the shareholders choose not to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP and may retain that firm or another firm without re-submitting the matter to our shareholders. Even if the appointment is ratified, however, the audit committee of our board of directors may, in its discretion, direct the appointment of different independent registered accountants during the year, if the audit committee determines such a change would be in our best interests.
Representatives of KPMG LLP are expected to be available in person during the annual meeting and while they do not plan to make a statement (although they will have the opportunity to do so), they will be available to respond to appropriate questions from shareholders.
Our board of directors recommends you vote FOR ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accountants.

## PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

## Audit Fees

The aggregate fees billed by KPMG LLP for the audit of our annual financial statements and services that are normally provided by the accounting firm in connection with statutory and regulatory filings were approximately $\$ 820,000$ for the year ended December 31, 2018 and $\$ 820,000$ for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Audit-Related Fees
Fees billed by KPMG LLP for professional services that were reasonably related to the performance of the audits referred to above were \$690,000 during 2018 and \$378,000 during 2017.

Tax Fees
No fees were billed by KPMG LLP for tax compliance, tax advice or tax planning services during 2018 or 2017.

## All Other Fees

No such fees were billed by KPMG LLP in 2018. In 2017, $\$ 248,000$ was billed for the assessment of new accounting standards.

All non-audit services require an engagement letter to be signed prior to commencing any permissible services. The engagement letter must detail the fee estimates and the scope of services to be provided. The current policy of our audit committee requires pre-approval from our audit committee of the non-audit services in advance of the engagement and the audit committee's responsibilities in this regard may not be delegated to management. The audit committee has delegated pre-approval authority to its Chair. Under this delegation, the Chair must report any pre-approval decision to the audit committee at its next meeting following the pre-approval. No non-audit services were rendered that were not in compliance with this policy.

## 2019 PROPOSAL NO. 4

## SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL REGARDING SHAREHOLDER PROXY ACCESS

John Chevedden (the "Proponent") has advised us he plans to present the following proposal (the "Proposal") at our annual meeting. The Proposal is included in this proxy statement pursuant to the rules of the SEC. The Company will promptly provide to any shareholder the address of the Proponent upon receiving an oral or written request from such shareholder to the Company counsel via phone at 404-233-2800 or email at robert.goldberg @allegiantair.com. Proponent has furnished evidence of ownership of no less than $\$ 2,000$ market value of shares of the Company's common stock for at least one year prior to the date the proposal was submitted.

The Proponent's Proposal and supporting statement are quoted verbatim below.
For the reasons set forth by the Company in the section titled "Our Statement in Opposition" following the Proponent's Proposal and supporting statement, the Company recommends AGAINST the Proponent's Proposal.

## Shareholder Proposal

RESOLVED, Shareholders ask the board of directors to amend its bylaws or other documents, as necessary, to maintain and upgrade the existing proxy access for shareholders to meet the following standard which is more favorable for shareholders:

Nominating shareholders of shareholder groups must beneficially own $3 \%$ or more of the Company's outstanding common stock continuously for at least 3 -years and pledge to hold such stock through the annual meeting. The 3\%
-figure is particularly important because the current proxy access ownership requirement is a burdensome $5 \%$ which is virtually unheard of.
Nominators may submit a statement of 500 -words or less in support of each nominee to be included in the Company
2. proxy.
3. The number of shareholder-nominated candidates eligible to appear in proxy materials shall be $25 \%$ of the directors
3. then serving or two, whichever is greater.
4. No limitation shall be placed on the number of shareholders that can aggregate their shares to achieve the $3 \%$ of Required Stock.
No limitation shall be placed on the re-nomination of shareholder nominees by Nominators based on the number or percentage of votes received in any election.
The Company shall not require that Nominators pledge to hold stock after the annual meeting if their nominees are not elected.
Loaned securities shall be counted as belonging to a nominating shareholder if the shareholder represents it has the
7.legal right to recall those securities for voting purposes and will hold those securities through the date of the annual meeting.

This proposal is of particular importance to Allegiant Travel Company because the proxy access Allegiant Travel adopted in 2018 was one of the weakest examples of proxy access adopted by any company since 2015.

Proxy access for shareholders enables shareholders to put competing director candidates on the company ballot to see if they can get more votes than some of management's director candidates. A competitive election is good for everyone. This proposal can help ensure that our management will nominate directors with outstanding qualifications in order to avoid giving shareholders a reason to exercise their right to use proxy access.

Please vote yes:

Shareholder Proxy Access - Proposal 4

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Required Vote
The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast is required for approval of the foregoing proposal.
Allegiant Travel Company Response to Proposal 4 - Proxy Access
OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL IF IT IS INTRODUCED AT THE 2019
ANNUAL MEETING AND RECOMMENDS A VOTE AGAINST THIS PROPOSAL FOR THE FOLLOWING
REASONS:
Our board recommends that shareholders vote AGAINST this proposal.
Our Statement in Opposition
In 2018, the Board adopted "proxy access" amendments to the Company's By-Laws in response to public company trends. Proxy access allows qualifying shareholders to nominate Directors to our Board and to include the nominees in the Company's proxy statement. The By-Law amendments were adopted after careful consideration by the Board of the Company's corporate governance structure and the Company's particular circumstances. The Company believes our proxy access By-Laws are consistent with market practice but strike the appropriate balance between providing shareholders with meaningful proxy access rights and protecting the interests of all shareholders by mitigating the potential for misuse by individuals whose interests are not aligned with our long-term shareholders.

The Company's By-Laws permit a shareholder, or a group of shareholders (with no limit as to number in the group), owning at least 5 percent of the Company's outstanding shares of common stock continuously for at least three years, to nominate and include in the Company's annual meeting proxy materials director nominees constituting up to 20 percent of the Board, rounded down to the next lower whole number, subject to compliance with the Company's By-Laws. The Company believes its proxy access By-Laws (i) are better tailored to the Company's stock ownership and Board structure, (ii) provide shareholders with an appropriate opportunity to nominate directors, (iii) better match our corporate philosophies and (iv) are substantially consistent with industry practices.

The Proponent's Proposal is virtually the same as his proposal last year which was defeated soundly by a vote of our shareholders. In our view, the Proposal takes a "one-size-fits all" approach and does not recognize the differences between our Company and our peers. The Proposal ignores the fact that the other eight public airlines to which we compare ourselves have between nine and 14 Board members. The Proposal seemingly suggests that being able to nominate two Directors is the desired number regardless of whether the two Directors constitute 33 percent of the Board as in our case or only 18 percent of the Board for companies with 11 Directors, almost twice the percentage of Directors merely because we have a smaller Board.

The Proposal seemingly ignores the fact that the other airlines to which we compare ourselves use 20 percent as the percentage of the Board to be nominated for each of those other airlines with proxy access as opposed to the Proposal's suggestion of 25 percent.

The Proposal seemingly ignores the fact that every one of the other airlines to which we compare ourselves and with proxy access limit the number of shareholders whose ownership can be aggregated to meet the ownership threshold. We have taken the shareholder-friendly approach to allow an unlimited number of shareholders to aggregate their stock ownership for proxy access.

As a company, we have prided ourselves on being different. Our business strategy has been different, focusing on nonstop service from small and mid-sized cities to leisure destinations, flying used aircraft on a less than daily

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schedule on almost all of our routes, selling direct to our customers as opposed to through third party distribution services, among other aspects of our business strategy. Our Board is different as we have a Board consisting of only six members, each of whom has substantial experience in the airline and travel industry. We have been one of the most profitable airlines in the world (in terms of operating margin) over many years. We see being different as a strength and not as a weakness.

The Proposal would have us adopt proxy access rules based significantly on the argument that other companies use the proposed criteria. We do not object to the Proposal because it is the same as others have adopted, but rather, we object after actually considering how these rules apply in our particular circumstances. The Proposal's requirements do not fit well under our circumstances with the size (and expertise) of our Board, the market capitalization of our Company and the significant ownership positions of a number of shareholders in our Company. After deliberate thought, we do not believe the Proposal's one-size-fits-all approach fits our Company very well and is likely to cause more disruption than benefit to the Company.

The Company's proxy access rules differ from the Proponent's Proposal in three respects. In particular:
The Company's By-Laws permit qualifying shareholders to nominate up to 20 percent of the current Board, rounded down to the next lower whole number. The Proponent's Proposal would allow qualifying shareholders to nominate 25 percent of our Board, but not less than two Directors. As our current Board consists of only six members, the Proponent's Proposal would allow nominating shareholders owning as few as 3 percent of our outstanding shares to nominate two members of the Board which would constitute 33 percent of our Board, which is highly disproportionate. Our existing By-laws allow the nominating shareholders to nominate one Director which would represent more than 16 percent of the Board, which is not nearly as disproportionate. The size of our Board dictates we should not adopt percentages which may be more appropriate for larger Boards. We view our small Board as a significant advantage as each member of the Board has substantial industry and leadership experience which allows for considerable engagement in all aspects of our business. These qualities may not be present in whomever nominating shareholders may choose to nominate. The Company believes a disruption to this structure could have unintended consequences, which include laying the groundwork for effecting a change in control, encouraging the pursuit of special interests, or otherwise disrupting the proper functioning of our highly efficient Board. Any of these potential outcomes could have an adverse impact on shareholder value.

The Company's By-Laws permit a group of shareholders with an aggregate of 5 percent ownership in the Company to exercise these proxy access rights. The Proponent's Proposal would require 3 percent ownership to avail themselves of the proxy access provisions. We realize many companies with proxy access rules require only 3 percent, but there are two factors which make us different. First, we believe we currently have seven shareholders who own by themselves more than 3 percent of our stock and we currently have four shareholders who meet the 5 percent threshold we have adopted. So, it could be a much simpler matter for a shareholder wanting to nominate a Director to seek to convince one of these seven shareholders to support a proxy nomination if the requirement was only 3 percent. We believe this is much different than most companies where a shareholder wanting to nominate a Director would likely have to aggregate the ownership of multiple shareholders to meet the minimum threshold. In a similar vein, our total market capitalization as of April 30, 2019, was approximately $\$ 2.3$ billion so a 3 percent threshold would only require a group with about $\$ 70$ million of stock ownership to be aggregated to nominate 33 percent of our Directors under the Proponent's proposal. Under the Company's proxy access requirement of 5 percent ownership, ownership of approximately $\$ 115$ million of stock would be required to nominate 16 percent of our Board. In comparison with the other eight public domestic airlines, their average market capitalization is more than $\$ 15$ billion so a 3 percent threshold for these companies on average would require ownership of more than $\$ 450$ million of stock (on average) to take advantage of proxy access rules with a 3 percent threshold, a threshold almost four times higher than our threshold using a 5 percent minimum ownership.

In fact, with one possible exception where the calculation is close, the dollar amount of investment to achieve 5 percent of our market capitalization is actually less than 3 percent of the market capitalization of seven of the other eight publicly held domestic airlines to which we compare ourselves. As such, it would still be easier to hold or represent sufficient stock to nominate Directors under the proxy access rules for our Company even at a 5 percent threshold than for seven of the other eight airlines at a 3 percent threshold.

We do not believe shareholders owning a much lower dollar value of our stock should be entitled to nominate a higher percentage of our Board. This reemphasizes to us that our 5 percent threshold and number of Directors which may be nominated are much more appropriate under our circumstances.

The Company's By-Laws provide that shareholders cannot count shares which are borrowed for this purpose or for which the shareholder does not bear the risk of loss (by way of a hedge or similar positions). The Proponent's Proposal would allow these shares to be counted. We strongly believe any shareholder seeking to take advantage of the proxy access rules should bear economic risk of loss to be in a position to seek to impact the governance of the Company.

The Proponent's Proposal does not have this requirement.
Beyond proxy access, the Company's corporate governance policies and practices provide shareholders with the ability to voice their opinions and ensure Board accountability and responsiveness to shareholders. We have adopted numerous corporate governance practices and policies that reinforce the Board's accountability to shareholders. Examples include:

Annual elections for all Directors with a majority vote standard in uncontested elections No supermajority voting provisions

Under existing SEC rules, shareholders already have the power to directly nominate and solicit proxies for their own director candidates at shareholder meetings without having to navigate any additional ownership thresholds or satisfy various holding requirements
The Board has appointed an independent lead director
A majority of our independent Directors' compensation consists of stock-based awards, thereby aligning Directors' long-term interests with long-term shareholder interests
Shareholders may submit names of potential director candidates directly to the Board or Nominating Committee for consideration
In addition to regular shareholder engagement processes, shareholders are able to directly communicate with the Board

This shareholder proposal calls for our shareholders to approve a process that would enable special interest groups collectively owning as little as 3 percent of our outstanding stock to nominate up to one-third of our Board and to nominate Directors who may promote their own agendas, potentially at the expense of the long-term interests of our shareholders. With independent Directors constituting two-thirds of the Board and receiving on average more than 99 percent support over the last three years from you, our shareholders, and our dedication to shareholder engagement, we already have a Board that is accountable to shareholders, responsive to shareholder input and committed to promoting the shareholders' best interests.

In light of the Company's belief that the Company's current proxy access By-Law provisions are broadly consistent with current market practice and better fit the Company's particular circumstances and that the Proponent's Proposal could have the effect of disrupting a smoothly run Board, the Board believes that adoption of the Proposal would be contrary to the best interests of the Company.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS A VOTE AGAINST THE SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL (PROPOSAL 4).

## SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

We currently expect to hold our 2020 annual meeting of shareholders in June and to mail proxy materials in May 2020. In that regard, shareholders who intend to have a proposal considered for inclusion in our proxy materials for presentation at our 2020 annual meeting of shareholders pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, must submit the proposal to us at our offices at 1201 N. Town Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89144, Attention: Gregory Anderson, Secretary, not later than January 17, 2020.

## HOUSEHOLDING OF ANNUAL MEETING MATERIALS

Some banks, brokers and other nominee record holders may be participating in the practice of "householding" proxy statements and annual reports. This means that only one copy of our proxy statement or annual report may have been sent to multiple shareholders in your household. We will promptly deliver a separate copy of either document to you if you write us
c/o Robert B. Goldberg, Esq., Ellis Funk, P.C., Suite 400, 3490 Piedmont Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, or call Mr. Goldberg at (404) 233-2800. If you want to receive separate copies of the annual report and proxy statement in the future, or if you are receiving multiple copies and would like to receive only one copy for your household, you should contact your bank, broker, or other nominee record holder, or you may contact us at the above address and phone number.

## OTHER MATTERS

## Action on Other Matters at the Annual Meeting

At this time, we do not know of any other matters to be presented for action at the annual meeting other than those mentioned in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders and referred to in this proxy statement. If any other matter comes before the meeting, it is intended that the proxies will be voted in respect thereof in accordance with the judgment of the persons voting the proxies.

## SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO DATE, SIGN AND RETURN PROMPTLY THE ENCLOSED PROXY IN THE ACCOMPANYING ENVELOPE, WHICH REQUIRES NO POSTAGE IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES. YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED. YOUR PROXY WILL BE VOTED, WITH RESPECT TO THE MATTERS IDENTIFIED THEREON, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY SPECIFICATIONS ON THE PROXY.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Gregory C. Anderson,<br>Secretary


[^0]:    4irline growth. During 2018, we grew our scheduled service capacity (available seat miles) by 10.0 percent and our number of routes served increased from 401 at December 31, 2017 to 417 at December 31, 2018.

    Financing. After the end of 2018, we were able to successfully refinance our high yield debt which would have
    5. matured in July 2019. We also secured financing for the construction of our Sunseeker Resort at Charlotte Harbor in Southwest Florida.

