

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017

or

Transition Report Under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Commission File No. 000-53577

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC.



(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation
or organization)

03-0606420

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

**27680 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI 48034
(248) 223-9160**

(Address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act:

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$.0001 par value per share

(Title of Class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during

the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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

The aggregate market value of the Registrant's voting common stock held by non-affiliates was \$36.8 million based on the per share closing price of the Company's common stock as reported on the NASDAQ stock market on June 23, 2017 .

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock as of March 8, 2018 was 26,850,416 shares.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:

Portions of the registrant's definitive Proxy Statement for its Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on or about May 24, 2018 , are incorporated by reference in Part III herein. The registrant intends to file such Proxy Statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this report on Form 10-K.

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PART I

When used in this Form 10-K, the “Company” and “DRH” refers to Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. and, depending on the context, could also be used to refer generally to the Company and its subsidiaries, which are described below.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information

Some of the statements in the sections entitled “Business,” and “Risk Factors,” and statements made elsewhere in this Annual Report may constitute forward-looking statements. These statements reflect the current views of our senior management team with respect to future events, including our financial performance, business, and industry in general. Statements that include the words “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “believe,” “project,” “forecast,” “estimate,” “may,” “should,” “anticipate” and similar statements of a future or forward-looking nature identify forward-looking statements for purposes of the federal securities laws or otherwise.

Forward-looking statements address matters that involve risks and uncertainties. Accordingly, there are or will be important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated in these statements. We believe that these factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- the success of our existing and new restaurants;
- our ability to identify appropriate sites and to finance the development and expansion of our operations;
- changes in economic conditions;
- damage to our reputation or lack of acceptance of our brand in existing or new markets;
- economic and other trends and developments, including adverse weather conditions, in the local or regional areas in which our restaurants are located;
- the impact of negative economic factors, including the availability of credit, on our landlords and surrounding tenants;
- changes in food availability and costs;
- labor shortages and increases in our compensation costs, including, as a result, changes in government regulation;
- increased competition in the restaurant industry and the segments in which we compete;
- the impact of legislation and regulations regarding nutritional information, new information or attitudes regarding diet and health, or adverse opinions about the health of consuming our menu offerings;
- the impact of federal, state, and local beer, liquor, and food service regulations;
- the success of our and our franchisor's marketing programs;
- the impact of new restaurant openings, including the effect on our existing restaurants of opening new restaurants in the same markets;
- the loss of key members of our management team;
- inability or failure to effectively manage our growth, including without limitation, our need for liquidity and human capital;
- the impact of litigation;
- the adequacy of our insurance coverage and fluctuating insurance requirements and costs;
- the impact of our indebtedness on our ability to invest in the ongoing needs of our business;
- our ability to obtain debt or other financing on favorable terms, or at all;

- the impact of a potential asset impairment charge in the future;
- the impact of any security breaches of confidential guest information in connection with our electronic processing of credit/debit card transactions;
- our ability to protect our intellectual property;
- the impact of any failure of our information technology system or any breach of our network security;
- the impact of any materially adverse changes in our federal, state, and local taxes;
- the impact of any food-borne illness outbreak;
- our ability to maintain our relationship with our franchisor on economically favorable terms;
- the impact of future sales of our common stock in the public market, the exercise of stock options, and any additional capital raised by us through the sale of our common stock;
- the effect of changes in accounting principles applicable to us; and
- the impact on the Company's future results as a result of its guarantees of certain leases of Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc.

The foregoing factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read together with the other cautionary statements included in this Annual Report. If one or more of these or other risks or uncertainties materialize, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual results may differ materially from what we anticipate. Any forward-looking statements you read in this Annual Report reflect our views as of the date of this Annual Report with respect to future events and are subject to these and other risks, uncertainties, and assumptions relating to our operations, results of operations, growth strategy, and liquidity. You should carefully consider all of the factors identified in this Annual Report that could cause actual results to differ.

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Business Overview

DRH is a restaurant company operating a single concept, Buffalo Wild Wings[®] (“BWW”). As one of the largest franchisees of BWW, we provide a unique guest experience in a casual and inviting environment. We were incorporated in 2006 and are headquartered in the Detroit metropolitan area. As of December 31, 2017, we had 65 restaurants in Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Missouri, including the nation’s largest BWW, based on square footage, in downtown Detroit, Michigan.

In 2008, DRH became publicly-owned by completing a self-underwritten initial public offering for \$735,000 and 140,000 shares. We subsequently completed an underwritten, follow-on offering on April 23, 2013 of 6.9 million shares with net proceeds of \$31.9 million.

DRH and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, the “Company”), AMC Group, Inc. (“AMC”), AMC Wings, Inc. (“WINGS”), and AMC Real Estate, Inc. (“REAL ESTATE”) own and operate BWW restaurants.

During the fourth quarter of 2017, DRH reached an agreement terminating its area development agreement (“ADA”) with Buffalo Wild Wings International, Inc. (“BWLID”). Prior to its termination, DRH had opened 30 restaurants under the ADA. As a result of this termination, DRH does not currently have any development obligations.

DRH is continually recognized as a leading franchisee in the BWW system. For example, in 2014 our Chief Operating Officer received the Founders' Award, and in both 2014 and 2015 we were recognized as Franchisee of the Year. In 2015 and 2017, three of our restaurants were awarded for sales performance and, in 2016, four of the Company's restaurants were recognized as Blazin' 25 restaurants, which rewards the top performing 25 franchise restaurants in the system. Also, in 2016 our Chief Operating Officer was awarded the Franchise Advisory Council Excellence Award.

The following organizational chart outlines the current corporate structure of DRH. A brief textual description of the entities follows the organizational chart. DRH is incorporated in Nevada.



AMC was formed on March 28, 2007, and serves as our operational and administrative center. AMC renders management, operational support, and advertising services to WINGS, REAL ESTATE and their subsidiaries. Services rendered by AMC include marketing, restaurant operations, restaurant management consultation, hiring and training of management and staff, and other management services reasonably required in the ordinary course of restaurant operations.

WINGS was formed on March 12, 2007, and serves as a holding company for our restaurants. We are economically dependent on retaining our franchise rights with BWLD. The franchise agreements have specific initial term expiration dates ranging from December 2020 through June 2037, depending on the date each was executed and the duration of its initial term. The franchise agreements are renewable at the option of the franchisor and are generally renewable if the franchisee has complied with the franchise agreement. When factoring in any applicable renewals, the franchise agreements have specific expiration dates ranging from December 2025 through June 2052. We believe we are in substantial compliance with the terms of these agreements. We are in discussions with the franchisor with respect to our anticipated schedule to complete certain remodels that are required under the franchise agreements.

REAL ESTATE was formed on March 18, 2013 and serves as the holding company for any real estate properties owned by DRH. Currently, DRH does not own any real estate after completing a sale leaseback transaction.

Our headquarters are located at 27680 Franklin Road, Southfield, Michigan 48034. Our telephone number is (248) 223-9160. We can also be found on the Internet at www.diversifiedrestaurantholdings.com.

Background

Bagger Dave's Spin-Off

On December 25, 2016, DRH completed a tax-free spin-off (the "Spin-Off") of its Bagger Dave's business. Specifically, DRH contributed its 100.0% owned entity, AMC Burgers, LLC and certain real estate entities into Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc., a newly created Nevada corporation ("Bagger Dave's" or "Bagger"), which was then spun-off into a stand-alone, publicly-traded company on the over-the-counter exchange. In connection with the Spin-Off, DRH contributed to Bagger certain assets, liabilities, and employees related to its Bagger Dave's businesses. Intercompany balances due to/from DRH, which included amounts from sales, were contributed to equity. Additionally, DRH contributed \$2 million in cash to Bagger to provide working capital for Bagger's operations and is a guarantor for certain of Bagger's lease obligations.

In conjunction with the Spin-Off, DRH entered into a transition services agreement (the "TSA") with Bagger Dave's pursuant to which DRH provided certain information technology and human resources support, limited accounting support, and other minor administrative functions at no charge. The TSA was intended to assist the discontinued component in efficiently and seamlessly transitioning to stand on its own. Certain provisions of the TSA terminated in December 2017 and the First Amendment to TSA (the "Amended TSA") was entered into effective January 1, 2018. Under the Amended TSA, DRH will provide ongoing administrative support to Bagger in certain areas, including information technology, human resources and real estate, in exchange for a fee based on a rate-per-hour of service.

Restaurant Concept

With 65 BWW restaurants (20 in Michigan, 18 in Florida, 15 in Missouri, seven in Illinois and five in Indiana), including the nation's largest BWW, based on square footage, in downtown Detroit, Michigan, DRH is one of the largest BWLD franchisees. As of December 31, 2017 , BWLD reported over 1,250 BWW restaurants worldwide that were either directly owned or franchised. The restaurants feature a variety of boldly-flavored, crave-able menu items, including Buffalo, New York-style chicken wings. BWW restaurants create a welcoming neighborhood atmosphere that includes an extensive multi-media system, a full bar and an open layout, which appeals to sports fans and families alike. The social environment created and the connections made with team members, guests and the local community help to differentiate BWW restaurants. Guests have the option of watching sporting events or other popular programs on various projector screens and televisions, competing in Buzztime ® Trivia or playing video games. The open layout of the restaurants offers dining and bar areas that provide distinct seating choices for sports fans and families. BWW restaurants offer flexibility and allow guests to customize their experience to meet their time demands, service preferences or the experience they are seeking for a workday lunch, a dine-in dinner, a take-out meal, an afternoon or evening enjoying a sporting event, or a late-night craving.

BWW restaurants have widespread appeal and have won dozens of "Best Wings" and "Best Sports Bar" awards across the country. The made-to-order menu items are enhanced by the bold flavor profile of 16 signature sauces and 5 signature seasonings, ranging from Sweet BBQ™ to Blazin'®. Restaurants offer 20 to 40 domestic and imported beers on tap, including craft brews, and a wide selection of bottled beers, wines, and liquor. The award-winning food and memorable experience drive guest visits and loyalty. For fiscal year 2017 , our average BWW restaurant derived 83.3% of its revenue from food, including non-alcoholic beverages, and 16.7% of its revenue from alcohol sales, primarily draft beer.

Growth Strategy

We are focused on driving same-store-sales growth in all of our locations through the execution of local, traffic-driving marketing and advertising strategies, continued support of the community through sponsorship programs and local charities, and delivery of quality food and service, all in a clean and modern environment. One of our guiding principles is that a happy team member translates to a happy guest. A happy guest drives repeat sales and word-of-mouth referrals, which are two key factors that directly support our local marketing strategy.

We also strive to improve our margins through a number of initiatives, including enhanced methods to manage cost of sales and hourly labor with use of technology and improved application of standards, and working with our service vendors to leverage our scale and obtain higher value at more competitive prices.

We currently own 65 BWW restaurants in five states. We may open a limited number of new BWW locations in our core markets over the long term. However, as capital resources become available, our growth strategy is more likely to consist of disciplined, strategic acquisitions of existing BWW or other franchised restaurants from other operators or franchisors.

Since 2012 we have acquired 29 restaurants in several transactions and have developed a strong process to identify, evaluate and integrate acquisitions. We have been regularly recognized as one of the best operators in the BWW system, and we believe that we can apply our strong operating disciplines and management culture to acquired locations to achieve financial improvements and growth over the long term.

Restaurant Operations

We believe retaining talented and passionate restaurant managers and providing our team members with the tools, skills and motivation to deliver our goal of the ultimate social experience represent two key steps to our success. In order to retain our unique culture, we devote substantial resources to identifying, selecting, and training our restaurant-level team members. We typically have six in-restaurant trainers at each location who provide both front- and back-of-house training on site. We also have a seven-week training program for our restaurant managers, which consists of an average of four weeks of restaurant training and three weeks of cultural training. During their training, managers observe our established restaurants' operations and guest interactions. We believe our focus on guest-centric training is a core strength of our Company and reinforces our mission to delight our guests.

Management and Staffing

The core values that define our culture are to be guest driven, team focused, community connected and dedicated to excellence. Our restaurants are generally staffed with one managing partner and up to five assistant managers, depending on the sales volume of the restaurant. The managing partner is responsible for day-to-day operations and for maintaining the standards of quality and performance that define our corporate culture. We use regional managing partners to oversee our managing partners and supervise the operation of our restaurants, including the continuing development of each restaurant's management team. Through regular visits to the restaurants and constant communication with the management team, the regional managing partners ensure adherence to all aspects of our concept, strategy and standards of quality.

Training, Development, and Recruiting

We believe that successful restaurant operations, guest satisfaction, quality, and cleanliness begin with the team member - a key component of our strategy. We pride ourselves on facilitating a well-organized, thorough, hands-on training program. In 2013, after nine months of developing our new training program with the help of industry experts, we introduced our Hospitality Excellence Academy ("HEA"). To ensure the success of our organization, HEA was designed to foster our culture of excellence by cultivating the leaders of tomorrow.

We offer an incentive program that we believe is very competitive in the restaurant industry. Aside from competitive base salaries and benefits, management is incentivized with a performance-based bonus program. We also provide group health, dental, and vision insurance, a company-sponsored 401(k) plan with a company match feature, a tuition reimbursement program, a referral bonus program and opportunities for career advancement. We emphasize growth from within the organization, giving our team members the opportunity to develop and advance. We believe this philosophy helps build a strong, loyal management team with high team member retention rates, giving us an advantage over our competitors.

Restaurants

Our restaurants range in size from 5,300 to 13,500 square feet, with a historical square foot average of about 6,400. We anticipate that future restaurants will range in size from 4,800 to 5,500 square feet with an average cash investment per restaurant ranging from approximately \$1.7 million to \$2.6 million. From time to time, our restaurants may be smaller or larger or cost more or less than our targeted range, depending on the particular circumstances of the selected site. Also, from time to time, we may elect to purchase either the building or the land and building for certain restaurants, which would require additional capital.

We have a continuous capital improvement plan for our restaurants and generally plan major renovations every seven to ten years. For a more detailed discussion of our capital improvement plans, see the section entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and specifically, the subsection entitled "Liquidity and Capital Resources; Expansion Plans."

Quality Control and Purchasing

We strive to maintain high quality standards, protecting our food supply at all times. Purchasing for our restaurants is primarily through channels established by BWLD corporate operations. We do, however, negotiate directly with many of these channels regarding price and delivery terms. When we purchase directly, we seek to obtain the highest quality ingredients, products, and supplies from reliable sources at competitive prices. To maximize our purchasing efficiencies, our corporate staff negotiates, when available, fixed-price contracts (usually for a one-year period) or, where appropriate, contracts based on commodity indexes.

Marketing and Advertising

We are required to pay an advertising fee to BWLD equal to 3.00% - 3.15% of total net sales (the "National Ad Fund fee"), which supports national advertising designed to build brand awareness and drive traffic to our restaurants. Some examples include television commercials on major networks, particularly during certain regional key games for the NFL, NHL, MLB, NBA, NCAA football and the March Madness NCAA basketball tournament. In addition, we invest 0.25% - 0.5% of certain regional net sales in cooperatives of BWW franchisees for two metropolitan areas. We currently have co-ops for the Detroit, MI and Chicago, IL markets where we engage in coordinated local restaurant marketing efforts with other BWW restaurants.

In addition to the National Ad Fund fee, in fiscal year 2017, we spent approximately 1.27% of total net sales on local marketing efforts (including co-ops), before rebates. This includes charitable donations and local community sponsorships, which help develop local public relations and are a major component of our marketing efforts. We support programs that build traffic at the grass-roots level. We also participate in numerous local restaurant marketing events throughout the communities we serve.

Information Systems and Technology

Enhancing the security of our financial data and other personal information remains a high priority for us. We continue to innovate and modernize our technology infrastructure to provide improved efficiency, control and security. Our ability to accept credit cards as payment in our restaurants and for online orders depends on us remaining compliant with standards set by the Payment Card Industry Security Standards Council ("PCI"). The PCI standards include compliance guidelines and standards with regard to our security surrounding the physical and electronic storage, processing and transmission of individual cardholder data. We maintain security measures that are designed to protect and prevent unauthorized access to such information. We continue to assess new payment standards and are in the process of implementing EMV chip enabled devices to ensure the most secure interface for transactions available in restaurants currently, as well as implementing a CCV-code requirement for online purchases.

We also believe that technology can provide a competitive advantage and enable our strategy for growth through efficient restaurant operations, information analysis and ease and speed of guest service. We have a standard point-of-sale system in our restaurants that is integrated to our corporate office through a web-based, above-store business intelligence reporting and analysis tool. Our systems are designed to improve operating efficiencies, enable rapid analysis of marketing and financial information and improve administrative productivity. We also integrated the online ordering function and leverage Rockbot,® which allows guests to select the music played throughout the restaurant using their mobile devices. In-restaurant tablets have also been introduced to enhance the guest experience through arcade games, some of which are free and some of which are available for purchase. Additionally, in 2017 we completed the roll-out of the BWLD loyalty program, Blazin® Rewards, which is a mobile-based loyalty program.

We are constantly assessing new technologies to improve operations, back-office processes and overall guest experience. This includes the implementation of mobile payment options, advanced programming of kitchen display units, tablet-based wait-listing applications, integration with delivery service providers, and server tablet ordering functionality.

Competition

The restaurant industry is highly competitive. We believe we compete primarily with local and regional sports bars and national casual dining and quick-casual establishments. Competition is expected to remain intense with respect to price, service, location, concept and type and quality of food. There is also competition for real estate sites, qualified management personnel and hourly restaurant staff. Many of our competitors have been in existence longer than we have and may be better established in markets where we are currently located or may, in the future, be located. Accordingly, we strive to continually improve our restaurants, maintain high quality standards and treat our guests in a manner that encourages them to return. We believe our pricing communicates value to guests in a comfortable, welcoming, full service atmosphere.

Trademarks, Service Marks, and Trade Secrets

The BWW registered service mark is owned by BWLD.

Government Regulations

The restaurant industry is subject to numerous federal, state, and local governmental regulations, including those relating to the preparation and sale of food and alcoholic beverages, sanitation, public health, nutrition labeling requirements, fire codes, zoning, and building requirements and to periodic review by state and municipal authorities for areas in which the restaurants are located. Each restaurant requires appropriate licenses from regulatory authorities allowing it to sell beer, wine and liquor and each restaurant requires food service licenses from local health authorities. The majority of our licenses to sell alcoholic beverages must be renewed annually and may be suspended or revoked at any time for cause, including violation by us or our team members of any law or regulation pertaining to alcoholic beverage control, such as those regulating the minimum age of team members or patrons who may serve or be served alcoholic beverages, the serving of alcoholic beverages to visibly intoxicated patrons, advertising, wholesale purchasing and inventory control. In order to reduce this risk, restaurant team members are trained in standardized operating procedures designed to assure compliance with all applicable codes and regulations. We have not encountered any material problems relating to alcoholic beverage licenses or permits to date.

We are also subject to laws governing our relationship with team members. Our failure to comply with federal, state and local employment laws and regulations may subject us to losses and harm our brand. The laws and regulations govern such matters as: workers' compensation insurance; wage and hour requirements; unemployment and other taxes; working and safety conditions; overtime; and citizenship and immigration status. Significant additional government-imposed regulations under the Fair Labor Standards Act and similar laws related to minimum wages, overtime, rest breaks, paid leaves of absence, and mandated health benefits may also impact the performance of our operations. In addition, team member claims based on, among other things, discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, wages, hour requirements and payments to team members who receive gratuities, may divert financial and management resources and adversely affect operations. The losses that may be incurred as a result of any violation of such governmental regulations by the Company are difficult to quantify. To our knowledge, we are in compliance in all material respects with all applicable federal, state and local laws affecting our business.

The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was enacted in March 2010. On January 1, 2015, the employer portion of the PPACA went into effect. In addition to being required to provide full-time employees with medical insurance that meets minimum value and affordability standards, the employer mandate requires employers to provide covered employees and the Internal Revenue Service with specific reportable benefit information. The Company's 2016 and 2017 medical plans have been offered to all full-time employees and meet the minimum value and affordability requirements of the PPACA, and the Company has complied with the informational reporting requirements of the PPACA.

Compliance with these laws and regulations may lead to increased costs and operational complexity and may increase our exposure to governmental investigations or litigation. We may also be subject, in certain states, to "dram shop" statutes, which generally allow a person injured by an intoxicated person to recover damages from an establishment that wrongfully served alcoholic beverages to the intoxicated person. We carry liquor liability coverage as part of our existing comprehensive general liability insurance which we believe is consistent with coverage carried by other companies in the restaurant industry of similar size and scope of operations. Even though we carry liquor liability insurance, a judgment against us under a "dram shop" statute in excess of our liability coverage could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

This Form 10-K, including the discussions contained in Items 1 and 7, contains various “forward-looking statements” that are based on current expectations or beliefs concerning future events. Such statements can be identified by the use of terminology such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “could,” “possible,” “plan,” “project,” “will,” “forecast” and similar words or expressions. Our forward-looking statements generally relate to our growth strategy, financial results, sales efforts, franchise expectations, restaurant openings and related expense and cash requirements. Although we believe there is a reasonable basis for the forward-looking statements, our actual results could be materially different. While it is not possible to foresee all of the factors that may cause actual results to differ from our forward-looking statements, such factors include, among others, the risk factors that follow. Investors are cautioned that all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and speak only as of the date on which they are made, and we do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement.

Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

Our Financial Results Depend Significantly Upon the Success of Our Existing and New Restaurants

Our ability to maintain and grow our revenue and profits will depend on our ability to successfully drive sales volumes and efficiently manage costs in our existing and new restaurants. Currently, we have 65 BWW restaurants. The results achieved by our current restaurants may not be indicative of longer-term performance or the potential market acceptance of our restaurant concept in other locations.

The success of our restaurants depends principally upon generating and maintaining guest traffic, loyalty and achieving positive margins. Significant factors that might adversely affect guest traffic and loyalty and profit margins include:

- economic conditions, including housing market downturns, rising unemployment rates, lower disposable income, adverse credit conditions, rising fuel prices and decreasing consumer confidence and other events or factors that adversely affect consumer spending in the markets we serve;
- competition in the restaurant industry, particularly in the casual and fast-casual dining segments;
- changes in consumer preferences;
- our guests’ failure to accept menu price increases that we may make to offset increases in certain operating costs;
- our reputation and consumer perception of our concepts’ offerings in terms of quality, price, value, ambiance and service; and
- our guests’ personal experiences from dining in our restaurants.

Our restaurants are also susceptible to increases in certain key operating expenses that are either wholly or partially beyond our control, including:

- food and other raw materials costs, many of which we cannot predict or effectively hedge against;
- compensation costs, including wage, workers’ compensation, health care and other benefits expenses;
- rent expenses and construction, remodeling, maintenance and other costs under leases for our new and existing restaurants;
- compliance costs as a result of changes in regulatory or industry standards;
- energy, water and other utility costs;
- costs for insurance (including health, liability and workers’ compensation);
- information technology and other logistical costs; and
- expenses due to litigation against us.

Competition in the Restaurant Industry May Affect Our Ability to Compete Effectively

The restaurant industry is intensely competitive. We believe we compete primarily with regional and local sports bars, casual dining concept, and fast-casual establishments. Many of our direct and indirect competitors are well-established national, regional or local chains with a greater market presence than us. Further, some competitors have substantially greater financial, marketing and other resources than us. In addition, independent owners of local or regional establishments may enter the wing-based restaurant business without significant barriers to entry and such establishments may provide price competition for our restaurants. Competition in the casual dining, fast-casual and quick-service segments of the restaurant industry is expected to remain intense with respect to price, service, location, concept and the type and quality of food. We also face intense competition for real estate sites, qualified management personnel and hourly restaurant staff.

Actions by Our Franchisor Could Negatively Affect Our Business and Operating Results

We are economically dependent on retaining our franchise rights with BWLD. Our BWW restaurant operations depend, in part, on decisions made by our franchisor, including changes of distributors, food menu items and prices, policies and procedures, and advertising programs. Business decisions made by BWLD could adversely impact our operating performance and profitability.

Poor Operating Results at Any of Our Restaurants Could Cause us to Cease Operations Regardless of Ongoing Lease and Franchise Agreement Obligations

Factors such as intense competition, difficult labor market conditions and low levels of guest traffic could cause us to cease operations at any of our BWW restaurants. From time to time, we have elected to close underperforming restaurants, and may elect to do so in the future regardless of ongoing lease or franchise agreement terms. In the past we have experienced, and may in the future experience, reduced sales as a result of restaurant closures and could have ongoing liabilities beyond the date of the closure.

Our Success Depends Substantially on the Value of the BWW Brand and Unfavorable Publicity Could Harm Our Business

With the completion of the Spin-Off all of our restaurants are BWW restaurants. Multi-unit restaurant businesses such as ours can be adversely affected by publicity resulting from complaints, litigation or general publicity regarding poor food quality, food-borne illness, personal injury, food tampering, adverse health effects of consumption of various food products or high-calorie foods (including obesity) or other concerns. Negative publicity from traditional media or online social network postings may also result from actual or alleged incidents or events taking place in our restaurants.

There has been a marked increase in the use of social media platforms and similar devices, including weblogs (blogs), social media websites, and other forms of Internet-based communications which allow individuals access to a broad audience of consumers and other interested persons. Consumers value readily available information concerning goods and services that they have or plan to purchase, and may act on such information without further investigation or authentication. The availability of information on social media platforms is virtually immediate, as is its impact. Many social media platforms immediately publish the content their subscribers and participants can post, often without filters or checks on accuracy of the content posted. The opportunity for dissemination of any sort of information or media, including inaccurate and prospectively harmful materials, is practically limitless and the technology through which such opportunities are afforded is ubiquitous. Information concerning our Company may be posted on such platforms at any time. Information posted may be adverse to our interests or may be inaccurate, each of which may harm our performance, prospects or business. The harm may be immediate without affording us an opportunity for redress or correction. Such platforms also could be used for dissemination of trade secret information, compromising valuable company assets. In summary, the dissemination of information online could harm our business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations, regardless of the information's accuracy.

Regardless of whether any public allegations or complaints are valid, unfavorable publicity relating to a number of our restaurants, or to only a single restaurant, could adversely affect public perception of the entire brand. Adverse publicity and its effect on overall consumer perceptions of food safety, or our failure to respond effectively to adverse publicity, could have a material adverse effect on our business. We must protect and grow the value of our brands to continue to be successful in the future. Any incident that erodes consumer trust in or affinity for our brands could significantly reduce their value. If consumers perceive or experience a reduction in food quality, service and ambiance or in any way believe we failed to deliver a consistently positive experience, the value of our brand could suffer.

Our Ability to Raise Capital in the Future May Be Limited, Which Could Adversely Impact Our Business

Changes in our restaurant operations, lower than anticipated restaurant sales, increased food or compensation costs, increased property expenses, acceleration of our expansion plans or other events, including those described in this Annual Report, may cause us to seek additional debt or equity financing on an accelerated basis. Financing may not be available to us on acceptable terms, and our failure to raise capital when needed could negatively impact our ability to service our debt, our restaurant growth plans as well as our financial condition and the results of our operations. Additional equity financing, if available, may be dilutive to the holders of our common stock. Debt financing may involve significant cash payment obligations, covenants and financial ratios that may restrict our ability to operate and grow our business, if available at all.

There Can Be No Assurances That, in the Future, We Will Be in Compliance With All Covenants of Our Current or Future Debt Agreements or That Our Lenders Will Waive Any Violations of Such Covenants

Non-compliance with our debt covenants could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. Non-compliance may result in us being in default under our debt agreements, which could cause a substantial financial burden by requiring us to repay our debt earlier than otherwise anticipated.

The Loss of Key Executives Could Affect Our Performance

Our success depends substantially on the contributions and abilities of key executives and other team members. The loss of any of our executive officers could jeopardize our ability to meet our financial targets. Our inability to retain the services of our executive team or to attract other qualified executives could have an adverse effect on us, and there could be a difficult transition period in finding suitable replacements for any of them.

We May Not Be Able to Attract and Retain Qualified Team Members to Operate and Manage Our Restaurants

The success of our restaurants depends on our ability to attract, motivate, develop and retain a sufficient number of qualified restaurant team members, including managers and hourly team members. The inability to recruit, develop and retain these individuals may delay the planned openings of new restaurants or result in high team member turnover in existing restaurants, thus increasing the cost to efficiently operate our restaurants. This could inhibit our expansion strategy and business performance and negatively impact our operating results.

Fluctuations in the Cost of Food Could Impact Operating Results

Our primary food products are fresh bone-in chicken wings, frozen boneless chicken and potatoes. Our food, beverage and packaging costs could be significantly affected by increases in the cost of fresh chicken wings, which can result from a number of factors, including but not limited to, seasonality, cost of corn and grain, animal disease, drought and other weather phenomena, increase in demand domestically and internationally, and other factors that may affect availability. Additionally, if there is a significant rise in the price of chicken wings, and we are unable to successfully adjust menu prices or menu mix or otherwise make operational adjustments to account for the higher wing prices, our operating results could be adversely affected. We also depend on our franchisor, BWLD, as it relates to chicken wings, to negotiate prices and deliver product to us at a competitive cost. Chicken wing prices per pound averaged \$2.07 in 2017, \$0.20 higher than the average of \$1.87 in 2016, which negatively impacted our results of operations as discussed in "Management's Discussion and Analysis." BWLD currently sources, negotiates and secures fresh bone-in chicken wings for its franchisees.

Shortages or Interruptions in the Availability and Delivery of Food and Other Supplies May Increase Costs or Reduce Revenue

Possible shortages or interruptions in the supply of food items and other supplies to our restaurants caused by inclement weather, terrorist attacks, natural disasters such as floods, drought, and hurricanes, pandemics, the inability of our vendors to obtain credit in a tightened credit market, food safety warnings or advisories, or the prospect of such pronouncements or other conditions beyond our control, could adversely affect the availability, quality and cost of items we buy and the operations of our restaurants. Our inability to effectively manage supply chain risk could increase our costs and limit the availability of products critical to our restaurant operations.

We May Face Guaranty Obligations or Other Potential Liabilities in Connection With the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's

Following the Bagger Dave's Spin-Off, we continue to provide lease guaranties and certain transition services to Bagger. We remain as a guarantor on 16 lease agreements as of December 31, 2017, two of which now relate to an unaffiliated party which has taken over the Bagger Dave's lease. In the event Bagger Dave's or the unaffiliated party were unable to meet their lease obligations, we could be required to make the lease payments or suffer other financial liability. The maximum exposure from lease guarantees is approximately \$8.4 million. These or other liabilities and costs that may be incurred in connection with the Spin-Off, may exceed our estimates and could have an adverse impact on our operating results and financial condition.

Board and Officer Overlap with Bagger Dave's May Give Rise to Conflicts of Interest

Our Executive Chairman, our President and CEO (both of whom are also members of our board of directors) and our CFO currently serve on Bagger Dave's board of directors. Our Executive Chairman is also the Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President of Bagger Dave's. We have certain business dealings with Bagger Dave's, including a transition services agreement and the lease guarantees. We may also have business dealings that extend beyond separation matters. In certain locations, our restaurants are located adjacent to or near a Bagger Dave's restaurant and may compete for guests. While we have procedures in place to consider related party transactions through independent committee members of our board, the overlap in directors and officers with Bagger Dave's may give rise to conflicts of interest.

Increases in Our Compensation Costs, Including as a Result of Changes in Government Regulation, Could Slow Our Growth or Harm Our Business

We are subject to a wide range of compensation costs. Because our compensation costs are, as a percentage of revenue, higher than other industries, we may be significantly harmed by compensation cost increases. Unfavorable fluctuations in market conditions, availability of such insurance, or changes in state and/or federal regulations could significantly increase our insurance premiums. In addition, we are subject to the risk of employment-related litigation at both the state and federal levels, including claims styled as class action lawsuits, which are costlier to defend. Also, some employment-related claims in the area of wage and hour disputes are not insurable risks.

Significant increases in health care costs may also continue to occur, and we can provide no assurance that we will be able to effectively contain those costs.

In addition, many of our restaurant personnel are hourly team members subject to various minimum wage requirements or changes to existing tip credit laws. Mandated increases in minimum wage levels and changes to the tip credit laws, which dictate the amounts an employer is permitted to assume a team member receives in tips when calculating the team member's hourly wage for minimum wage compliance purposes, have recently been and continue to be proposed and implemented at both federal and state government levels. Continued minimum wage increases or changes to allowable tip credits may further increase our compensation costs or effective tax rate.

Various states in which we operate are considering or have already adopted new immigration laws, and the U.S. Congress and Department of Homeland Security from time to time consider or implement changes to federal immigration laws, regulations, or enforcement programs as well. Some of these changes may increase our obligations for compliance and oversight, which could subject us to additional costs and make our hiring process cumbersome or reduce the availability of potential team members. Although we require all team members to provide us with government-specified documentation evidencing their employment eligibility, some of our team members may, without our knowledge, be unauthorized team members. Unauthorized team members are subject to deportation and may subject us to fines or penalties, and if any of our team members are found to be unauthorized, we could experience adverse publicity that negatively impacts our brand and may make it more difficult to hire and keep qualified team members. Termination of a significant number of team members that, unbeknownst to us, were unauthorized team members may disrupt our operations, cause temporary increases in our compensation costs as we train new team members and result in additional adverse publicity. Our financial performance could be materially harmed as a result of any of these factors.

Changes in Public Health Concerns and Legislation and Regulations Requiring the Provision of Nutritional Information May Impact Our Performance

Government regulation and consumer eating habits may impact our business as a result of changes in attitudes regarding diet and health or new information regarding the health effects of consuming our menu offerings. These changes have resulted in, and may continue to result in, the enactment of laws and regulations that impact the ingredients and nutritional content of our menu offerings, or laws and regulations requiring us to disclose the nutritional content of our food offerings. For example, a number of states, counties and cities have enacted menu labeling laws requiring multi-unit restaurant operators to disclose certain nutritional information available to guests or have enacted legislation restricting the use of certain types of ingredients in restaurants. The U.S. health care reform law included nation-wide menu labeling and nutrition disclosure requirements as well, and our restaurants are now covered by these national requirements. The final rule was published on December 1, 2014 and required implementation by the end of 2016, but that deadline has been extended to May 2018. Although the federal legislation is intended to preempt conflicting state or local laws on nutrition labeling, until we are required to comply with the federal law, we will be subject to a patchwork of state and local laws and regulations regarding nutritional content disclosure requirements. Many of these requirements are inconsistent or are interpreted differently from one jurisdiction to another. The effect of such labeling requirements on consumer choices, if any, is unclear at this time. We cannot make any assurances regarding our ability to effectively respond to changes in consumer health perceptions or our ability to successfully implement the nutrient content disclosure requirements and to adapt our menu offerings to trends in eating habits. The imposition of menu-labeling laws could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial position, as well as the restaurant industry in general.

Multiple jurisdictions in which we operate could adopt recently enacted new requirements that require us to adopt and implement a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points ("HACCP") system for managing food safety and quality. HACCP refers to a management system in which food safety is addressed through the analysis and control of potential hazards from production, procurement and handling, to manufacturing, distribution and consumption of the finished product. We expect to incur certain costs to comply with these regulations, and these costs may be more than we anticipate. If we fail to comply with these laws or regulations, our business could experience a material adverse effect.

Further, growing movements to change laws relating to alcohol may result in a decline in alcohol consumption at our restaurants or increase the number of "dram shop" claims made against us, either of which may negatively impact operations or result in the loss of liquor licenses.

A Regional or Global Health Pandemic Could Severely Affect Our Business

A health pandemic is a disease outbreak that spreads rapidly and widely by infection and affects many individuals in an area or population at the same time. If a regional or global health pandemic were to occur, depending upon its duration and severity, our business could be severely affected. We have positioned our brand as a place where people can gather together. Customers might avoid public gathering places in the event of a health pandemic, and local, regional or national governments might limit or ban public gatherings to halt or delay the spread of disease. A regional or global health pandemic might also adversely impact our business by disrupting or delaying production and delivery of materials and products in our supply chain and by causing staffing shortages in our restaurants. The impact of a health pandemic on us might be disproportionately greater than on other companies that depend less on the gathering of people together for the sale or use of their products and services.

Changes in Consumer Preferences or Discretionary Consumer Spending Could Harm Our Performance

Our success depends, in part, upon the continued popularity of our chicken and boneless wings, other food and beverage items and the appeal of our restaurant concepts. We also depend on trends toward consumers eating away from home. Shifts in these consumer preferences could negatively affect our future profitability. Such shifts could be based on health concerns related to the cholesterol, carbohydrate, fat, calorie or salt content of certain food items, including items featured on our menu. Negative publicity over the health aspects of such food items may adversely affect consumer demand for our menu items and could result in a decrease in guest traffic to our restaurants, which could materially harm our business. In addition, our success depends, to a significant extent, on numerous factors affecting discretionary consumer spending, general economic conditions, disposable consumer income, and consumer confidence. A decline in consumer spending or in economic conditions could reduce guest traffic or impose practical limits on pricing, either of which could harm our business, financial condition, operating results or cash flow.

Our Operating Results May Fluctuate Due to the Timing of Special Events

Our operating results depend, in part, on special events, such as the Super Bowl[®] and other sporting events viewed by our guests in our restaurants, including those sponsored by the National Football League, Major League Baseball, National Basketball Association, National Hockey League and National Collegiate Athletic Association. Interruptions in the viewing of these professional sporting league events due to strikes or lockouts may impact our business and operating results. Additionally, our results are subject to fluctuations based on the dates of sporting events, their availability for viewing through broadcast, satellite, Internet and cable networks, and the level of participation in these events by teams that are relevant to the markets in which we operate. Historically, sales in most of our restaurants have been higher during fall and winter months based on the relative popularity and extent of national, regional and local sporting and other events in the geographic regions in which we currently operate.

We May Not Be Successful When Entering New Markets

When expanding the BWW concept or potentially acquiring other franchise concepts, we may enter new markets in which we may have limited or no operating experience. There can be no assurance that we will be able to achieve success and/or profitability in our new markets or in our new restaurants. The success of these new restaurants will be affected by the different competitive conditions, consumer taste, and discretionary spending patterns within the new markets, as well as by our ability to generate market awareness of the BWW brand or other brands. New restaurants typically require several months of operation before achieving normal levels of profitability. When we enter highly competitive new markets or territories in which we have not yet established a market presence, the realization of our revenue targets and desired profit margins may be more susceptible to volatility and/or more prolonged than anticipated.

Higher-Than-Anticipated Costs Associated With the Opening of New Restaurants or With the Closing, Relocating, or Remodeling of Existing Restaurants May Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations

Our revenue and expenses may be significantly impacted by the location, number and timing of the opening of new restaurants and the closing, relocating and remodeling of existing restaurants. We incur substantial pre-opening expenses each time we open a new restaurant and will incur other expenses if we close, relocate or remodel existing restaurants. These expenses are generally higher when we open restaurants in new markets, but the costs of opening, closing, relocating or remodeling any of our restaurants may be higher than anticipated. An increase in such expenses could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

Future Acquisitions May Have Unanticipated Consequences That Could Harm Our Business and Our Financial Condition

We may seek to selectively acquire existing BWW or other restaurant concepts as a franchisee. To do so, we would need to identify suitable acquisition candidates, negotiate acceptable acquisition terms and obtain appropriate financing as needed. Any acquisitions we pursue, whether successfully completed or not, may involve risks, including:

- material adverse effects on our operating results, particularly in the fiscal quarters immediately following the acquisition as the acquired restaurants are integrated into our operations;
- customary closing and indemnification risks associated with any acquisition;
- funds used pursuing acquisitions we are ultimately unable to consummate because the transaction is subject to a right of first refusal in favor of our franchisor, BWLD; and
- diversion of management's attention from other business concerns.

Future acquisitions of existing restaurants, which may be accomplished through a cash purchase transaction, the issuance of our equity securities, or a combination of both, could result in potentially dilutive issuances of our equity securities, the incurrence of debt and contingent liabilities and impairment charges related to intangible assets, any of which could harm our business and financial condition.

Our Inability to Renew Existing Leases or Enter Into New Leases For New or Relocated Restaurants on Favorable Terms May Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations

As of December 31, 2017, all of our restaurants are located on leased premises and are subject to varying lease-specific arrangements. For example, some of the leases require base rent that is subject to increase based on market factors, and other leases include base rent with specified periodic increases. Some leases are subject to renewals, which could involve substantial increases. Additionally, a few leases require contingent rent based on a percentage of gross sales. When our leases expire in the future, we will evaluate the desirability of renewing such leases. While we currently expect to pursue all renewal options, no guarantee can be given that such leases will be renewed or, if renewed, that rents will not increase substantially. The success of our restaurants depends in large part on their leased locations. As demographic and economic patterns change, current leased locations may or may not continue to be attractive or profitable. Possible declines in trade areas where our restaurants are located or adverse economic conditions in surrounding areas could result in reduced revenue in those locations. In addition, desirable lease locations for new restaurant openings or for the relocation of existing restaurants may not be available at an acceptable cost when we identify a particular opportunity for a new restaurant or relocation.

Economic Conditions Could Have a Material Adverse Impact on Our Landlords in Retail Centers in Which We Are Located

Our landlords may be unable to obtain financing or remain in good standing under their existing financing arrangements, resulting in failures to pay required construction contributions or satisfy other lease covenants to us. If our landlords fail to satisfy required co-tenancies, such failures may result in us terminating leases or delaying openings in these locations. Also, decreases in total tenant occupancy in retail centers in which we are located may affect guest traffic at our restaurants. All of these factors could have a material adverse impact on our operations.

A Decline in Visitors to Any of the Business Districts Near the Locations of Our Restaurants Could Negatively Affect Our Restaurant Sales

Some of our restaurants are located near high-activity areas such as retail centers, big-box shopping centers and entertainment centers. We depend on high visitor rates at these businesses to attract guests to our restaurants. If visitors to these centers decline due to economic conditions, closure of big-box retailers, road construction, changes in consumer preferences or shopping patterns, changes in discretionary consumer spending or otherwise, our restaurant sales in these areas could decline significantly and adversely affect the results of our operations.

Because Many of Our Restaurants are Concentrated in Local or Regional Areas, We are Susceptible to Economic and Other Trends and Developments, Including Adverse Weather Conditions, in These Areas

Our financial performance is highly dependent on restaurants located in Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Missouri. As a result, adverse economic conditions in any of these areas could have a material adverse effect on our overall results of operations. In recent years, certain of these states have been more negatively impacted by the housing decline, high unemployment rates and the overall economic crisis than other geographic areas. In addition, other regional occurrences such as local strikes, terrorist attacks, increases in energy prices, adverse weather conditions, hurricanes, droughts or other natural or man-made disasters have occurred. In particular, adverse weather conditions can impact guest traffic at our restaurants, cause the temporary underutilization of certain seating areas, and, in more severe cases, cause temporary restaurant closures, sometimes for prolonged periods. As of December 31, 2017, approximately 72.3% of our total restaurants are located in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Missouri, which are particularly susceptible to snowfall, and approximately 27.7% of our total restaurants are located in Florida, which is particularly susceptible to hurricanes.

Legal Actions Could Have an Adverse Effect on Us

We have faced in the past and could face in the future legal action from government agencies, team members, guests, or other parties. Many state and federal laws govern our industry, and if we fail to comply with these laws, we could be liable for damages or penalties. In October 2015, the Company settled two collective actions alleging violations of fair labor standards acts and minimum wage laws, and a third suit with similar claims was settled in August 2016. We may face such claims in the future. Further, we may face litigation from guests alleging that we were responsible for an illness or injury they suffered at or after a visit to our restaurants, or alleging that we are not complying with regulations governing our food quality or operations. We may also face employment-related litigation, including claims of age discrimination, sexual harassment, gender discrimination, immigration violations, or other local, state, and federal labor law violations. In light of the potential cost and uncertainty involved in litigation, we may settle matters even when we believe we have a meritorious defense. Litigation and its related costs may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We May Not Be Able to Obtain and Maintain Licenses and Permits Necessary to Operate Our Restaurants

The restaurant industry is subject to various federal, state and local government licensure and permitting requirements, including those relating to the sale of food and alcoholic beverages. The failure to obtain and maintain these licenses, permits and approvals, including food and liquor licenses, could adversely affect our operating results. Difficulties or failure to obtain any required licenses, permits or other government approvals could delay or result in our decision to cancel the opening of new restaurants. Local authorities may revoke, suspend or deny renewal of our food and liquor licenses if they determine that our conduct violates applicable regulations.

The Sale of Alcoholic Beverages at Our Restaurants Subjects Us to Additional Regulations and Potential Liability

For fiscal year 2017, approximately 16.7% of our consolidated restaurant sales were attributable to the sale of alcoholic beverages. Our restaurants sell alcoholic beverages, and as such, we are required to comply with the alcohol licensing requirements of the federal government, states and municipalities where our restaurants are located. Alcoholic beverage control regulations require applications to state authorities and, in certain locations, county and municipal authorities for a license and permit to sell alcoholic beverages on the premises and to provide service for extended hours and on Sundays. Typically, the licenses are renewed annually and may be revoked or suspended for cause at any time. Alcoholic beverage control regulations relate to numerous aspects of the daily operations of the restaurants, including minimum age of guests and team members, hours of operation, advertising, wholesale purchasing, inventory control and handling, storage and dispensing of alcoholic beverages. If we fail to comply with federal, state or local regulations, our licenses may be revoked and we may be forced to terminate the sale of alcoholic beverages at one or more of our restaurants.

In certain states, we are subject to “dram shop” statutes, which generally allow a person injured by an intoxicated person the right to recover damages from an establishment that wrongfully served alcoholic beverages to the intoxicated person. Some dram shop litigation against restaurant companies has resulted in significant judgments, including punitive damages.

We Are Dependent on Information Technology and Any Material Failure or Breach in Security of That Technology Could Impair Our Ability to Efficiently Operate Our Business

We rely on information systems across our operations, including, for example, point-of-sale processing in our restaurants, management of our supply chain, collection of cash, payment of obligations, and various other processes and procedures. Our ability to efficiently manage our business depends significantly on the reliability and capacity of these systems. The failure of these systems to operate effectively, problems with maintenance, upgrading or transitioning to replacement systems, or a breach in security of these systems could cause delays in guest service and reduce efficiency in our operations. There have been a number of recent occurrences of cyber security breaches across many retail industries, and such a breach of our systems could represent a material risk to our operations. Significant capital investments might be required to remediate any problems.

Our Current Insurance May Not Provide Adequate Levels of Coverage Against Claims

We currently maintain insurance that is customary and required in our franchise agreements and leases. However, there are types of losses we may incur that cannot be insured against or that we believe are not economically reasonable to insure against, such as losses due to natural disasters. Such damages could have a material adverse effect on our business and the results of operations. Additionally, there is no assurance that we will be able to maintain our current coverage at acceptable premium rates or that any coverage will be available to us in the future.

An Impairment in the Carrying Value of Our Fixed Assets, Intangible Assets or Goodwill Could Adversely Affect Our Financial Condition and Consolidated Results of Operations

Goodwill represents the excess of cost over the fair value of identified net assets of businesses acquired. We review goodwill for impairment annually, or whenever circumstances change in a way which could indicate that impairment may have occurred. Goodwill is tested at the reporting unit level. We identify potential goodwill impairments by comparing the fair value of the reporting unit to its carrying amount, which includes goodwill and other intangible assets. If the carrying amount of the reporting unit exceeds the fair value, an impairment exists. The amount of the impairment is the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair value. A significant amount of judgment is involved in determining if an indication of impairment exists. Factors may include, among others: a significant decline in our expected future cash flows; a sustained, significant decline in our stock price and market capitalization; a significant adverse change in legal factors or in the business climate; unanticipated competition; the testing for recoverability of a significant asset group within a reporting unit; and slower growth rates. Any adverse change in these factors would have a significant impact on the recoverability of these assets and negatively affect our financial condition and consolidated results of operations. We are required to record a non-cash impairment charge if the testing performed indicates that goodwill has been impaired.

We evaluate the useful lives of our fixed assets and intangible assets to determine if they are definite- or indefinite-lived. Reaching a determination on useful life requires significant judgments and assumptions regarding the lease term, future effects of obsolescence, demand, competition, other economic factors (such as the stability of the industry, legislative action that results in an uncertain or changing regulatory environment, and expected changes in distribution channels), the level of required maintenance expenditures and the expected lives of other related groups of assets. We cannot accurately predict the amount and timing of any impairment of assets. Should the value of fixed assets or intangible assets become impaired, there could be an adverse effect on our financial condition and consolidated results of operations.

We May Incur Costs Resulting From Security Risks We Face in Connection With Our Electronic Processing and Transmission of Confidential Guest Information

We accept electronic payment cards from our guests in our restaurants. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, approximately 72.6% of our sales were attributable to credit/debit card transactions, and credit/debit card usage could continue to increase. A number of restaurant operators and retailers have experienced actual or potential security breaches in which credit/debit card information may have been stolen. While we carry cyber risk insurance and have taken reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of security breaches in this respect, we may in the future become subject to claims for purportedly fraudulent transactions arising out of the actual or alleged theft of credit/debit card information, and we may also be subject to lawsuits or other proceedings in the future relating to these types of incidents. Proceedings related to theft of credit/debit card information may be brought by payment card providers, banks, and credit unions that issue cards, cardholders (either individually or as part of a class action lawsuit), and federal and state regulators. Any such proceedings could distract our management team members from running our business and cause us to incur significant unplanned losses and expenses.

We also receive and maintain certain personal information about our guests and team members. The use of this information by us is regulated at the federal and state levels. If our security and information systems are compromised or our team members fail to comply with these laws and regulations and this information is obtained by unauthorized persons or used inappropriately, it could adversely affect our reputation, as well as the results of operations, and could result in litigation against us or the imposition of penalties. In addition, our ability to accept credit/debit cards as payment in our restaurants and online depends on us maintaining our compliance status with standards set by the PCI Security Standards Council. These standards, set by a consortium of the major credit card companies, require certain levels of system security and procedures to protect our guests' credit/debit card information as well as other personal information. Privacy and information security laws and regulations change over time, and compliance with those changes may result in cost increases due to necessary system and process changes.

Failure to Establish and Maintain Our Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Could Harm Our Business and Financial Results

Our management team members are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is a process to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that we would prevent or detect a misstatement of our financial statements or fraud. Any failure to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting could limit our ability to report our financial results accurately and timely or to detect and prevent fraud. The occurrence of material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting could cause a loss of investor confidence and decline in the market price of our stock.

Our Inability or Failure to Effectively Manage Our Marketing Through Social Media Could Materially Adversely Impact Our Business

As part of our marketing efforts, we rely on BWLD managed search engine marketing and social media platforms such as Facebook[®] and Twitter[®] to attract and retain guests. BWLD is also initiating a multi-year effort to implement new technology platforms that should allow us to digitally engage with our guests and team members and strengthen our marketing and analytics capabilities. These initiatives may not be successful, resulting in expenses incurred without the benefit of higher revenues or increased employee engagement. In addition, a variety of risks are associated with the use of social media, including the improper disclosure of proprietary information, negative comments about our company, exposure of personally identifiable information, fraud, or out-of-date information. The inappropriate use of social media vehicles by our guests or team members could increase our costs, lead to litigation or result in negative publicity that could damage our reputation.

There is Volatility in Our Stock Price

The market for our stock has, from time to time, experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations. Factors such as announcements of variations in our quarterly financial results and fluctuations in same-store sales could cause the market price of our stock to fluctuate significantly. In addition, the stock market in general, and the market prices for restaurant companies in particular, have experienced volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of such companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the price of our stock, regardless of our operating performance.

The market price of our stock can be influenced by shareholders' expectations about the ability of our business to grow and to achieve certain profitability targets. If our financial performance in a particular quarter does not meet the expectations of our shareholders, it may adversely affect their views concerning our growth potential and future financial performance. In addition, if the securities analysts who regularly follow our stock lower their ratings of our stock, the market price of our stock is likely to drop significantly.

If the Spin-Off Does Not Qualify as a Tax-free Transaction, the Company and its Shareholders Could be Subject to Additional Tax Liabilities

The Company, with the assistance of an opinion obtained from our tax advisors, structured the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's as a 100% tax-free transaction under the applicable provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. This opinion is based on assumptions and other representations regarding factual matters made by the Company and Bagger Dave's. In the event these assumptions and representations were found to be inaccurate or incomplete, the tax-free status conclusion reached by our advisors could be in jeopardy. There is a risk that the IRS, upon examination of the facts and circumstances surrounding the transaction, could conclude that the Spin-Off is a taxable event. As a result, the Company and its shareholders could possibly incur additional tax liabilities, including penalties and interest.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Our main office is located at 27680 Franklin Road, Southfield, Michigan 48034 and our telephone number is (248) 223-9160. Our main office has approximately 5,340 square feet of office space. We occupy this facility under a lease that ends June 30, 2019. As of March 8, 2018, we operated 65 Company-owned restaurants, all of which are leased properties. Typically, our operating leases contain renewal options under which we may extend the renewal lease terms for periods of five to 10 years. Most of our leases include "exclusive use" provisions prohibiting our landlords from leasing space to other restaurants that fall within certain specified criteria and incorporate incremental increases based on time passage and payment of certain occupancy-related expenses.

We own all of the equipment, furnishings, and fixtures in our restaurants. The Company also owns a significant amount of leasehold improvements in the leased facilities.

As of December 31, 2017, we operated restaurant properties for 20 locations in Michigan, 18 locations in Florida, 15 locations in Missouri, seven locations in Illinois and five locations in Indiana. Our restaurants range in size from approximately 5,300 square feet to 13,500 square feet with the majority of our restaurants located in stand-alone buildings and/or end-cap positions in strip malls, with a few being in strip mall in-line positions.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The following information is incorporated by reference: the information set forth under the heading "Legal Proceedings" in Note 11 "Commitments and Contingencies" of the "Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements" of Part II, Item 8 to this Report on Form 10-K.

In addition, we are occasionally a defendant in litigation arising in the ordinary course of our business, including claims arising from personal injuries, contract claims, dram shop claims, employment-related claims, and claims from guests or team members alleging injury, illness, or other food quality, health, or operational concerns. We have insured and continue to insure against most of these types of claims. A judgment on any claim not covered by or in excess of our insurance coverage could materially adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

PART II**ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES****Market Information**

The Company's common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol "SAUC". The development and maintenance of an active public trading market depends upon the existence of willing buyers and sellers, the presence of which is beyond our control. While we are a publicly-traded company, the volume of trading activity in our stock is still relatively limited.

The following table sets forth the high and low bid quotations for our common stock for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, as reported by NASDAQ:

	2017		2016	
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 2.24	\$ 1.32	\$ 2.65	\$ 1.26
Second Quarter	\$ 3.95	\$ 2.13	\$ 2.13	\$ 1.18
Third Quarter	\$ 2.75	\$ 1.97	\$ 1.90	\$ 0.91
Fourth Quarter	\$ 2.14	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.69	\$ 0.70

Holders

As of March 8, 2018, there were approximately 385 record holders of 26,850,416 shares of the Company's common stock, excluding shareholders whose stock is held either in nominee name and/or street name brokerage accounts.

Dividends

We have not declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock. It is our policy to preserve cash for development and debt reduction. DRH does not have plans to pay any cash dividends. Our future dividend policy will be determined by our Board of Directors and will depend on various factors, including our results of operations, financial condition, anticipated cash needs, debt levels and plans for expansion.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

Not Applicable.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATION

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes to those statements included elsewhere in this document. The following discussion contains, in addition to historical information, forward-looking statements that include risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including those set forth under the heading "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this document.

Overview

DRH is a single-concept restaurant company operating 65 BWW franchised restaurants. As one of the largest franchisees of BWLD, we provide a unique guest experience in a casual and inviting environment. We are committed to providing value to our guests by offering generous portions of flavorful food in an upbeat and entertaining atmosphere. We believe BWW is a uniquely positioned restaurant brand designed to maximize guest appeal, offering competitive price points and a family-friendly atmosphere, which we believe enables strong long-term performance through varying economic cycles. We were incorporated in Nevada in 2006 and are headquartered in the Detroit metropolitan area. Our current 65 restaurants are located in Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Missouri.

Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's

On December 25, 2016, DRH completed the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's into a new, independent publicly traded company. The Spin-Off was achieved through the distribution of 100 percent of the outstanding capital stock of Bagger Dave's pro rata to holders of DRH common stock on a one-for-one basis. DRH decided to spin-off Bagger Dave's after considering all reasonable strategic and structural alternatives because of the disparity between the operating models of its two brands, BWW as franchisee, and Bagger Dave's as an owned concept. The management teams of Bagger Dave's and DRH agreed that the nature of the two concepts varied greatly, and that each will be more valuable and operate more effectively independently of one another. Bagger Dave's is a concept developed by the management team of DRH. In contrast to operating a franchised concept like BWW, it has no development restrictions and the flexibility to enhance brand attributes such as logos, trade dress and restaurant design, change its menu offering and improve its operational model in an effort to better align with guest expectations. To manage these functions effectively, specific resources are required that are not necessary for a franchisee. For example, menu development, purchasing and brand marketing are critical to the success of Bagger Dave's but not necessary for a BWW franchisee since these functions are managed by the franchisor. Additional considerations were contemplated with respect to growth potential. As a start-up brand, Bagger Dave's was thought to have higher growth potential while BWW, being a mature brand and as a franchisee, has more limits to its organic growth potential due to its development rights.

As part of the Spin-Off transaction, DRH agreed to fund a one-time \$2 million cash distribution to Bagger Dave's and agreed that, if deemed necessary within twelve months after the date of the Spin-Off, up to \$1 million of additional cash funding may be considered upon approval by DRH and its lenders. As of December 31, 2017, there has been no additional funding by DRH and the twelve-month time frame has lapsed. The transaction was structured such that Bagger Dave's was released as a borrower under the DRH senior secured credit facility. Additionally, DRH retained substantially all of the tax benefits (net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards) generated prior to the date of the transaction.

Our Growth Strategies and Outlook

Our strategy is comprised of the following key growth components:

- pursue disciplined restaurant growth through a combination of both organic expansion and strategic acquisitions;
- deliver comparable restaurant sales growth by providing our guest with an exceptional experience and executing effective marketing and promotional strategies; and
- leverage our infrastructure and operating expertise to grow profit margins.

We have a disciplined strategy for opening new restaurants. We also evaluate the potential for strategic acquisitions of Buffalo Wild Wings franchises where we have an opportunity to leverage our infrastructure and operational expertise. We believe our historical track record of acquiring and integrating restaurants provides us with additional future growth opportunities and, as our capital resources permit, we will seek to take advantage of strategic acquisitions that may be available in the marketplace.

The Company opened one new restaurant in 2017 . Over the next five years, we may consider opening several new restaurants in our markets, but we have no obligation to do so (for additional discussion of our growth strategies and outlook, see the section entitled “Business - Growth Strategy”).

Performance Indicators

We use several metrics to evaluate and improve each restaurant’s performance that include: sales trends, guest satisfaction, hourly compensation costs and food, beverage and packaging costs. We also use the following key performance indicators in evaluating restaurant performance:

- *Comparable Restaurant Sales* . We consider a restaurant to be comparable following the eighteenth month of operation. Changes in comparable restaurant sales reflect changes in sales for the comparable group of restaurants over a specified period of time. Changes in comparable sales can reflect changes in guest count trends, changes in average check size and changes in pricing.
- *Restaurant-Level Contribution*. Also referred to as Restaurant-Level EBITDA, this metric presents a restaurant's profit contribution and is defined as net revenue less costs of sales, labor, occupancy and operational expenses. It is representative of a restaurant's cash flow and is often times presented and measured as a percentage of sales in comparison to other restaurants.

Restaurant Openings

The following table outlines the restaurant unit information for each fiscal year from 2013 through 2017 , excluding Bagger Dave's restaurants.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Restaurants open at the beginning of year	64	62	42	36	33
Openings/(Closures):					
New Restaurant Openings	1	2	3	3	3
Restaurant Acquisitions	—	—	18	3	—
Restaurant Closures	—	—	(1)	—	—
Total restaurants open at the end of year	65	64	62	42	36

Our Fiscal Year

The Company utilizes a 52- or 53-week accounting period that ends on the last Sunday in December. Fiscal year 2017 ended on December 31, 2017 and fiscal year 2016 ended on December 25, 2016 . Fiscal year 2017 was comprised of 53 weeks, while fiscal year 2016 was comprised of 52 weeks.

Key Financial Definitions

Revenue. Revenue primarily consists of food and beverage sales, and merchandise sales, such as BWW sauce. Revenue is presented net of discounts associated with each sale. Revenue in a given period is directly influenced by the number of operating weeks in such period, the number of restaurants we operate and changes in restaurant sales.

Food, Beverage, Packaging and Merchandise Related Costs. The components of food, beverage packaging and merchandise related costs are variable in nature, change with sales volume and are subject to increases or decreases based on fluctuations in market prices and commodity costs.

Compensation Costs. Compensation costs include restaurant management salaries, front- and back-of-house hourly wages, and restaurant-level manager bonuses, team member benefits and payroll taxes.

Occupancy Costs. Occupancy costs include rent charges, both fixed and variable, as well as common area maintenance costs, property insurance and taxes, the amortization of tenant allowances and the adjustment to straight-line rent. These expenses are generally fixed, but a portion may vary with an increase in sales if the lease contains a percentage rent provision.

Other Operating Costs. Other operating costs consist primarily of restaurant-related operating costs, such as supplies, utilities, repairs and maintenance, travel cost, insurance, credit card fees, recruiting and security. This expense category also includes franchise royalty and national advertising fund expenses. These costs generally increase with higher sales volume but decline as a percentage of revenue.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses include costs associated with administrative and operational support functions including senior and supervisory management and staff compensation costs (including share-based compensation) and benefits, marketing and advertising expenses, travel, legal and professional fees, information systems, support office rent and other related support costs.

Pre-Opening Costs. Restaurant pre-opening costs consist of expenses incurred prior to opening a new restaurant, including manager salaries, relocation costs, supplies, recruiting expenses, initial new market public relations costs, pre-opening activities, team member payroll and related training costs for new team members. Restaurant pre-opening expenses also include rent recorded during the period between date of lease inception and the restaurant opening date. In addition, the Company includes restaurant labor costs that exceed the historical average for the first three months of restaurant operations that are attributable to training and initial staff turnover.

Depreciation and Amortization . Depreciation and amortization includes depreciation on fixed assets, including equipment and leasehold improvements, and amortization of certain intangible assets for restaurants.

Interest Expense . Interest expense consists primarily of interest on our outstanding indebtedness and the amortization of our debt issuance costs, reduced by capitalized interest.

Discontinued Operations. As a result of the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's effective December 25, 2016, the assets, liabilities, results of operations and cash flows from operating and investing activities are presented as discontinued operations in 2016.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table presents the consolidated statements of operations for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 with each line item as a percentage of revenue.

	Fiscal Years-Ended	
	2017	2016
Revenue	100.0 %	100.0 %
Operating expenses		
Restaurant operating costs (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below):		
Food, beverage, and packaging	29.5 %	28.1 %
Compensation costs	25.2 %	24.8 %
Occupancy	7.1 %	6.8 %
Other operating costs	21.2 %	20.9 %
General and administrative expenses	5.5 %	5.6 %
Pre-opening costs	0.2 %	0.4 %
Depreciation and amortization	7.9 %	8.8 %
Loss on asset disposals	0.2 %	0.2 %
Total operating expenses	96.8 %	95.6 %
Operating profit	3.2 %	4.4 %
Interest expense	(4.0)%	(3.5)%
Other income (expense), net	0.1 %	(0.1)%
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes	(0.7)%	0.8 %
Income tax (provision) benefit	(11.5)%	(1.4)%
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(12.2)%	2.2 %
Discontinued operations		
Loss from discontinued operations before income taxes	(0.1)%	(6.1)%
Income tax benefit of discontinued operations	— %	(0.3)%
Loss from discontinued operations	(0.1)%	(5.8)%
Net loss	(12.3)%	(3.6)%

FISCAL YEAR 2017 COMPARED WITH FISCAL YEAR 2016

Revenue

Total revenue for Fiscal Year 2017 was \$165.5 million , a decrease of \$1.1 million , or 0.6% , over revenue generated during Fiscal Year 2016 . The decrease was driven by lost sales from Hurricane Irma, an unfavorable number of major sporting events in our core markets in the Second Quarter, a decline in overall traffic and the impact of the revenue deferral related to the Blazin' Rewards loyalty program launched in late-2016, partially offset by sales from a new restaurant opened in Second Quarter 2017 and the 53rd week in Fiscal Year 2017. Fiscal year 2017 same-store sales decreased by 3.7% for the 52-week period ended December 24, 2017 compared to the 52-week period ended December 25, 2016.

Operating Expenses

Food, beverage, packaging and merchandise related costs increased by \$2.0 million , or 4.3% , to \$48.8 million in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$46.8 million in Fiscal Year 2016 as a result of the 53rd week in Fiscal Year 2017 and an increase in the number of restaurants. Food, beverage, and packaging cost as a percentage of sales increased from 28.1% in Fiscal Year 2016 to 29.5% in Fiscal Year 2017 . Commodity cost inflation driven primarily by bone-in chicken wing prices were partially offset by menu price increases and other commodity cost deflation. Average cost per pound for bone-in chicken wings increased to \$2.07 in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$1.87 in Fiscal Year 2016 .

Compensation costs increased by \$ 0.4 million , or 1.0% , to \$ 41.7 million in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$ 41.3 million in Fiscal Year 2016 . The increase was primarily due to the 53rd week in Fiscal Year 2017. Compensation cost as a percentage of sales increased to 25.2% in Fiscal Year 2017 from 24.8% in Fiscal Year 2016 primarily due to lower average unit volumes.

Occupancy costs increased by \$0.3 million , or 3.1% , to \$ 11.7 million in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$ 11.4 million in Fiscal Year 2016 , primarily due to the increase in the number of restaurants operating in 2017 . Occupancy cost as a percentage of sales increased to 7.1% in Fiscal Year 2017 from 6.8% in Fiscal Year 2016 primarily due to lower average unit volumes.

Other operating costs increased by \$0.2 million , or 0.6% , to \$ 35.1 million in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$ 34.8 million in Fiscal Year 2016 primarily due to the 53rd week in Fiscal Year 2017 and an increase in the number of restaurants operating in 2017 . Other operating cost as a percentage of sales increased to 21.2% in Fiscal Year 2017 from 20.9% in Fiscal Year 2016 , as a result of lower average unit volumes.

General and administrative expenses decreased by \$ 0.2 million , or 2.0% , to \$ 9.1 million in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$ 9.3 million in Fiscal Year 2016 . This decrease was primarily due to a decrease in corporate wages and marketing expenses. General and administrative costs as a percentage of sales decreased to 5.5% in Fiscal Year 2017 from 5.6% in Fiscal Year 2016 , despite lower average unit volumes.

Pre-opening costs decreased by \$ 0.2 million , or 32.3% , to \$ 0.4 million in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$ 0.6 million in Fiscal Year 2016 . We opened one new restaurant in Fiscal Year 2017 and opened two new restaurants in Fiscal Year 2016. As a percentage of sales, pre-opening costs decreased to 0.2% in Fiscal Year 2017 from 0.4% in Fiscal Year 2016 .

Depreciation and amortization decreased by \$ 1.6 million , or 10.8% , to \$ 13.1 million in Fiscal Year 2017 from \$ 14.7 million in Fiscal Year 2016 . This decrease was primarily due to fixed asset disposals partially offset by the addition of two new restaurants opened in the Second Quarter of 2016 and one new restaurant opened in Second Quarter 2017 . Depreciation and amortization as a percentage of sales decreased to 7.9% in Fiscal Year 2017 from 8.8% in Fiscal Year 2016 .

Loss on asset disposal remained flat in Fiscal Year 2017 from Fiscal Year 2016 .

Interest and Taxes

Interest expense was \$ 6.6 million and \$ 5.8 million during the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively. The increase was primarily due to the increased debt resulting from building a new restaurant in Second Quarter 2017 and rising interest rates.

In Fiscal Year 2017 we recorded an income tax expense of \$19.0 million compared with an income tax benefit of \$2.3 million in Fiscal Year 2016 . The increase in the income tax expense is primarily related to the establishment of a full valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets of the Company.

Loss from Operations of the Discontinued Component

Loss from operations of the discontinued component was \$0.2 million and \$10.2 million in 2017 and 2016 , respectively. The spin-off was completed as of December 25, 2016, and as a result, only minor expenses related to Bagger Dave's were incurred in 2017.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES; EXPANSION PLANS

On June 29, 2015, the Company entered into a five-year, \$155.0 million senior secured credit facility with a syndicate of lenders led by Citizens (the "Senior Secured Credit Facility") with a senior lien on all the Company's personal property and fixtures. The Senior Secured Credit Facility consists of a \$120.0 million term loan (the "Term Loan"), a \$30.0 million development line of credit (the "DLOC"), and a \$5.0 million revolving line of credit (the "RLOC").

On December 23, 2016, the Company entered into an amendment agreement for purposes of, among other things, releasing the Bagger Dave's entities as borrowers and releasing all related liens on the Bagger Dave's assets. In addition, the amendment (a) converted the amounts then outstanding under the DLOC to a development facility term loan (the "DF Term Loan" and, together with the Term Loan, the "Term Loans"), (b) canceled \$6.8 million previously available under the DLOC, and (c) extended the maturity date on the remaining \$5.0 million under the DLOC to June 29, 2018.

Payments of principal are based upon a 12 -year straight-line amortization schedule, with monthly principal payments totaling \$959,718 on the Term Loans, plus accrued interest. As of December 31, 2017 , \$5.0 million and \$3.1 million was outstanding under the RLOC and the DLOC, respectively. Availability under the DLOC is subject to certain limitations relative to actual development costs and access to the facility is restricted based on the Company's leverage ratio. Outstanding balances convert into a DF Term Loan on June 29, 2018. Upon conversion, additional monthly principal will be due on the Term Loans based on the 12 -year amortization period. The entire remaining outstanding principal and accrued interest on the Senior Secured Credit Facility is due and payable on the maturity date of June 29, 2020.

The interest rate for each of the loans, as selected by the borrower, is based upon either a LIBOR or base rate (generally Prime or Fed Funds) plus an applicable margin, which ranges from 2.25% to 3.5% for LIBOR loans and from 1.25% to 2.5% for base rate loans, depending on the lease adjusted leverage ratio as defined in the agreement.

The current debt agreement contains various customary financial covenants generally based on the performance of the Company. The financial covenants consist of a quarterly minimum required debt service coverage ratio (the "DSCR") and a maximum permitted lease adjusted leverage ratio (the "LALR"). For the quarter ended December 31, 2017 the Company was not in compliance with these loan covenants but, pursuant to an amendment dated February 28, 2018, the requirement to comply with these covenants was waived. This amendment also revised the minimum required DSCR for the following seven quarters and revised the maximum permitted LALR for the following eight quarters.

We believe that our current cash balance, in addition to our cash flow from operations, will be sufficient to fund our present operations and meet our commitments on our existing debt. However, if our forecasts are wrong or working capital needs arise that require additional financing, we believe that our current leverage level and business performance would result in rates and terms for additional debt financing that would be unattractive, if additional financing is available at all. Therefore, if necessary, we may issue additional shares of common or preferred stock to raise funds.

Outside of funding our current operations and servicing our existing debt, our capital requirements are primarily dependent upon our restaurant remodel requirements and the pace of our new restaurant growth plan.

We believe that reinvesting in existing restaurants is an important factor and necessary to maintain the overall positive dining experience for our guests and, as a result, we have historically invested heavily in refreshes and upgrades. Depending on the age of the existing restaurants, upgrades have ranged from \$50,000 (for minor interior refreshes or audio/video upgrades) to \$1.3 million (for a full extensive remodel of the restaurant). We currently target remodels of no more than \$0.5 million to upgrade a typical BWW restaurant to the Stadia design. Our current plan is to fully remodel existing BWW restaurants to the Stadia design at or around the time of a scheduled refresh or remodel, typically within seven to ten years of opening.

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We do not currently plan to complete any new restaurant development or any significant facility upgrades until our liquidity and capital resources improve.

Cash flow from continuing operations for fiscal 2017 and 2016 was \$12.7 million and \$17.0 million, respectively. Net cash provided by operating activities consisted primarily of net earnings adjusted for non-cash expenses.

For 2017, our capital expenditures were \$4.7 million. Approximately 54.5% of the capital was used for a new restaurant opening and the remaining 45.5% for restaurant remodels, upgrades and other general corporate purposes.

After the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's, the Company retained certain tax benefits (net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards) and, since the Spin-Off, the Company has generated additional tax benefits which, together, will offset pre-tax income totaling over \$70 million at current estimated tax rates. We do not expect to incur significant federal and/or state income tax liabilities until our tax benefits have been fully utilized.

Mandatory Upgrades

We completed two remodels in 2017 and do not currently expect to complete, nor are we required by the franchisor to complete, any remodels in 2018. Further, we are currently having discussions with the franchisor regarding requirements for remodels beyond 2018 as the details, specifications and timing of future remodels are being re-evaluated by new ownership after its recent acquisition of BWLD.

Discretionary Upgrades and Relocations

In fiscal year 2017, the Company invested additional capital to provide minor upgrades to a number of its existing locations, funded by cash from operations. These improvements primarily consist of refreshing interior building finishes and audio/visual equipment upgrades. In fiscal 2017, we did not have any relocations. The decision to relocate is typically driven by timing of our current lease agreements and the availability of real estate that we deem to be a better long-term investment.

2018 Capital Plan

In 2018, we anticipate our capital expenditures will range between \$0.5 million and \$1.5 million and will be for minor facility upgrades and general maintenance-type investments in our restaurants. We do not expect to develop any new restaurants or complete any remodels of our existing restaurants. The core element of our capital plan in 2018 is to improve our net debt leverage ratio by reducing our capital spending and using our free cash flow to pay down debt.

Contractual Obligations

The following table presents a summary of our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2017:

	Total	Less than one year	1 - 3 years	3 - 5 years	After 5 years
Long-term debt ¹	\$ 113,929,163	\$ 11,440,433	\$ 102,488,730	\$ —	\$ —
Operating lease obligations	66,439,998	8,947,232	16,420,338	13,909,456	27,162,972
	<u>\$ 180,369,161</u>	<u>\$ 20,387,665</u>	<u>\$ 118,909,068</u>	<u>\$ 13,909,456</u>	<u>\$ 27,162,972</u>

¹ Amount represents the expected principal cash payments relating to our long-term debt and do not include any fair value adjustments or discounts/premiums or interest rate payments due to the variability of the rates. See Note 7 for additional details.

Impact of Inflation

Our profitability is dependent, among other things, on our ability to anticipate and react to changes in the costs of key operating resources, including food and other raw materials, labor, energy, and other supplies and services. Substantial increases in costs and expenses could impact our operating results to the extent that such increases cannot be passed along to our restaurant guests. The impact of inflation on food, labor, energy and occupancy costs can significantly affect the profitability of our restaurant operations.

All of our restaurant staff members are paid hourly rates related to the federal minimum wage. Certain operating costs, such as taxes, insurance and other outside services continue to increase with the general level of inflation or higher and may also be subject to other cost and supply fluctuations outside of our control.

While we have been able to partially offset inflation and other changes in the costs of key operating resources by gradually increasing prices for our menu items, more efficient purchasing practices, productivity improvements, and greater economies of scale, there can be no assurance that we will be able to continue to do so in the future. From time to time, competitive conditions could limit our menu pricing flexibility. In addition, macroeconomic conditions could make additional menu price increases imprudent. There can be no assurance that all future cost increases can be offset by increased menu prices or that increased menu prices will be fully absorbed by our restaurant guests without any resulting changes in their visit frequencies or purchasing patterns. There can be no assurance that we will continue to generate increases in comparable restaurant sales in amounts sufficient to offset inflationary or other cost pressures.

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

The Company previously was party to an ADA that required it to open 42 BWW restaurants within its designated development territory by April 1, 2021. As of December 31, 2017, 30 of the required 42 restaurants under the ADA had been opened for business and the ADA had been terminated with no further obligations.

After the Spin-Off, the Company remains liable for guarantees of certain Bagger Dave's leases. These guarantees cover 16 separate leases, several of which relate to restaurants previously closed and being operated by a new tenant under either a sub-lease or a new lease.

The Company has determined that its maximum exposure resulting from the lease guarantees includes approximately \$8.4 million of future minimum lease payments plus potential additional payments to satisfy maintenance, property tax and insurance requirements under the leases as of December 31, 2017. The terms and conditions of the guarantees vary, and each guarantee has an expiration date which may or may not correspond with the end of the underlying lease term. These expiration dates range from less than 1 month to 12 years as of December 31, 2017. In the event that the Company is required to perform under any of its lease guarantees, we do not believe a liability to the Company would be material because it would first seek to minimize its exposure by finding a suitable tenant to sub-lease the space. In many cases, we expect that a replacement tenant would be found and the lessor would agree to release the Company from its future guarantee obligation. Since 2015, 10 Bagger Dave's locations with DRH lease guarantees were closed. New tenants were found to step into the Company's lease obligations for 8 of these locations in 3 to 14 months from the date of closure. Over this time, 7 guarantees expired or terminated, and 3 remain obligations of the Company.

In conjunction with the Spin-Off, DRH entered into a transition services agreement (the "TSA") with Bagger Dave's pursuant to which DRH provided certain information technology and human resources support, limited accounting support, and other minor administrative functions at no charge. The TSA was intended to assist the discontinued component in efficiently and seamlessly transitioning to stand on its own. Certain provisions of the TSA terminated in December 2017 and the First Amendment to TSA (the "Amended TSA") was entered into effective January 1, 2018. Under the Amended TSA, DRH will provide ongoing administrative support to Bagger in certain areas, including information technology, human resources and real estate, in exchange for a fee based on a rate-per-hour of service.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America ("GAAP") and the Company's discussion and analysis of its financial condition and operating results require the Company's management to make judgments, assumptions and estimates that affect the amounts reported in its consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Note 1, "Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies," of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this Form 10-K describes the significant accounting policies and methods used in the preparation of the Company's consolidated financial statements. Management bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions it believes to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from these estimates, and such differences may be material. We consider an accounting estimate to be critical if it requires assumptions to be made and changes in these assumptions could have a material impact on our consolidated financial condition or results of operations. Management considers these policies critical because they are both important to the portrayal of the Company's financial condition and operating results, and they require management to make judgments and estimates about inherently uncertain matters. The Company's management has reviewed these critical accounting policies and related disclosures with the Audit and Finance Committee of the Company's Board of Directors.

Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets

We review long-lived assets quarterly to determine if triggering events have occurred which would require a test to determine if the carrying amount of these assets may not be recoverable based on estimated future cash flows. Assets are reviewed at the lowest level for which cash flows can be identified, which is at the individual restaurant level. In the absence of extraordinary circumstances, restaurants are included in the impairment analysis after they have been open for two years. We evaluate the recoverability of a restaurant's long-lived assets, including intangibles, leasehold improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment over the remaining life of the primary asset in the asset group, after considering the potential impact of planned operational improvements, marketing programs, and anticipated changes in the trade area. In determining future cash flows, significant estimates are made by management with respect to future operating results for each restaurant over the remaining life of the primary asset in the asset group. If assets are determined to be impaired, the impairment charge is measured by calculating the amount by which the asset carrying amount exceeds its fair value based on our estimate of discounted future cash flows. The determination of asset fair value is also subject to significant judgment. For fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 no impairment losses were recognized in continuing operations.

We account for exit or disposal activities, including restaurant closures, in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 420, *Exit or Disposal Cost Obligations*. Such costs include the cost of disposing of the assets, as well as other facility-related expenses from previously closed restaurants. These costs are generally expensed as incurred.

Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets

Liquor licenses, also a component of intangible assets, are deemed to have an indefinite life and, accordingly, are not amortized. Management reviews liquor license assets on an annual basis or more frequently if impairment indicators are present to determine whether carrying values have been impaired. We identify potential impairments for liquor licenses by comparing the fair value with its carrying amount. If the fair value exceeds the carrying amount, the liquor licenses are not impaired. If the carrying amount exceeds the fair value, an impairment loss is recorded for the difference. If the fair value of the asset is less than the carrying amount, an impairment is recorded. No impairments were recognized in fiscal 2017 or 2016 in continuing operations.

Goodwill

Goodwill is not amortized and represents the excess of cost over the fair value of identified net assets of businesses acquired. Goodwill is subject to an annual impairment analysis or more frequently if indicators of impairment exist. At both December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, we had goodwill of \$50.1 million. The goodwill is assigned to the Company's Buffalo Wild Wings reporting unit, which, due to the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's on December 25, 2016, represents the Company's only reporting unit.

The Company assesses goodwill for impairment on an annual basis during the fourth quarter, or more frequently if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. The Company's assessment first reviews relevant qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not (a likelihood of more than 50%) that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. In evaluating whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, we assess relevant events and circumstances. If, after assessing the totality of events and circumstances, we determine that it is more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying amount, the quantitative impairment test would be necessary. Conversely, if it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying amount, further action would not be required.

We early adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2017-04, Topic 350: Intangibles - Goodwill and Other: Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment ("ASU 2017-04") as of September 25, 2017, the beginning of our fourth quarter. ASU 2017-04 requires goodwill impairment to be measured as the excess of the carrying value over the fair value of the reporting unit, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. Previously goodwill impairment was measured as the excess of carrying value over the implied fair value of goodwill. The carrying value of our reporting unit as of September 25, 2017 was negative, and therefore goodwill was not impaired as of December 31, 2017. As a result of our qualitative assessment as of December 25, 2016, we determined it was not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit was below the carrying value and therefore no impairment was calculated.

Income Taxes

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are computed for differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities that will result in taxable or deductible amounts in the future, based on enacted tax laws and rates applicable to the periods in which the differences are expected to affect taxable income. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. Income tax expense is the tax payable or refundable for the period plus or minus the change during the period in deferred tax assets and liabilities.

In accordance with the provisions of FASB ASC 740, *Income Taxes*, (“ASC 740”) a valuation allowance is established when it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Realization is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income or the reversal of deferred tax liabilities during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. We consider the reversal of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies. Management assesses the available positive and negative evidence to estimate whether sufficient future taxable income will be generated to permit use of the existing deferred tax assets. A significant piece of objective negative evidence evaluated was the cumulative loss incurred over the three-year period ended December 31, 2017. Such objective evidence limits the ability to consider other subjective evidence, such as our projections for future growth. As a result of this evaluation, as of December 31, 2017, a valuation allowance of \$15.9 million has been recorded because the company is unable to assert that realization of the deferred tax asset is more likely than not. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable, however, could be adjusted if estimates of future taxable income increase or if objective negative evidence in the form of cumulative losses is no longer present and additional weight is given to subjective evidence such as our projections for growth.

On December 25, 2016 we completed the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave’s, which had previously generated significant pre-tax losses. After the Spin-Off, the majority of the net deferred tax assets were retained by the Company, which in its continuing operations had a history of profitability and was expected to continue to generate pre-tax income in the future. This expected operating performance combined with the planned opening of additional BWW restaurants was expected provide future taxable income that would enable the Company to utilize the tax benefits prior to their expirations. Given this information, there was no valuation allowance recorded for the fiscal year ended December 25, 2016. While there was no allowance recorded against the deferred tax assets of the continuing operations, the Company incurred a one-time charge against the benefit for income taxes of \$1.8 million. This charge is the result of certain deferred tax assets relating to discontinued operations that were determined to be unrealizable by Bagger Dave’s and is allocable to continuing operations as required by ASC 740.

The Company applies the provisions of ASC 740, regarding the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. The Company classifies all interest and penalties as income tax expense. There are no accrued interest amounts or penalties related to uncertain tax positions as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016.

Interest Rate Swap Agreements

The Company utilizes interest rate swap agreements with Citizens Bank, N.A. (“Citizens”) to fix interest rates on a portion of the Company’s portfolio of variable rate debt, which reduces exposure to interest rate fluctuations. Our derivative financial instruments are recorded at fair value on the balance sheet. The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives which qualify for hedge accounting is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) and is recognized in the statement of operations when the hedged item affects earnings. Ineffective portion of the change in fair value of a hedge would be recognized in income immediately. The Company does not use any other types of derivative financial instruments to hedge such exposures, nor does it use derivatives for speculative purposes.

The interest rate swap agreements associated with the Company’s current debt agreements qualify for hedge accounting. As such, the Company records the change in the fair value of its swap agreements as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax. The Company records the fair value of its interest swaps on the Consolidated Balance Sheet in other long-term assets or other liabilities depending on the fair value of the swaps. See Note 7, Note 14 and Note 15 for additional information on the interest rate swap agreements.

Share-based Compensation

The Company estimates the fair value of stock option awards utilizing the Black-Scholes pricing model. The fair value of the awards is amortized as compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award, which is generally the vesting period. The fair value of restricted shares is equal to the number of restricted shares issued times the Company’s stock price on the date of grant and is amortized as compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the service period of the award.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Not Applicable.

ITEM 8. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The Consolidated Financial Statements, Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, and the Report of Independent Registered Accounting Firm are included in this Annual Report and are incorporated herein by reference.

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC.
Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Shareholders and Board of Directors
Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.
Southfield, Michigan

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive loss, stockholders’ equity (deficit), and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company and subsidiaries at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ BDO USA, LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2011.

Troy, Michigan
March 9, 2018

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,371,156	\$ 4,021,126
Accounts receivable	653,102	276,238
Inventory	1,591,363	1,700,604
Prepaid and other current assets	408,982	1,305,936
Total current assets	7,024,603	7,303,904
Deferred income taxes	—	16,250,928
Property and equipment, net	48,014,043	56,630,031
Intangible assets, net	2,438,187	2,666,364
Goodwill	50,097,081	50,097,081
Other long-term assets	185,322	233,539
Total assets	\$ 107,759,236	\$ 133,181,847
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 4,561,939	\$ 3,995,846
Accrued compensation	1,854,127	2,803,549
Other accrued liabilities	2,404,942	2,642,269
Current portion of long-term debt	11,440,433	11,307,819
Current portion of deferred rent	411,660	194,206
Total current liabilities	20,673,101	20,943,689
Deferred rent, less current portion	2,208,238	2,020,199
Deferred income taxes	2,759,870	—
Unfavorable operating leases	510,941	591,247
Other liabilities	2,346,991	3,859,231
Long-term debt, less current portion	102,488,730	109,878,201
Total liabilities	130,987,871	137,292,567
Commitments and contingencies (Notes 3, 10 and 11)		
Stockholders' deficit		
Common stock - \$0.0001 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 26,859,125 and 26,632,222, respectively, issued and outstanding	2,625	2,610
Additional paid-in capital	21,776,402	21,355,270
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(283,208)	(934,222)
Accumulated deficit	(44,724,454)	(24,534,378)
Total stockholders' deficit	(23,228,635)	(4,110,720)
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	\$ 107,759,236	\$ 133,181,847

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	Fiscal Years Ended	
	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Revenue	\$ 165,462,612	\$ 166,520,925
Operating expenses		
Restaurant operating costs (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below):		
Food, beverage, and packaging	48,799,718	46,794,091
Compensation costs	41,726,264	41,307,718
Occupancy	11,720,147	11,370,223
Other operating costs	35,062,833	34,845,059
General and administrative expenses	9,081,866	9,265,432
Pre-opening costs	405,448	599,279
Depreciation and amortization	13,115,072	14,696,846
Loss on asset disposals	310,536	338,306
Total operating expenses	160,221,884	159,216,954
Operating profit	5,240,728	7,303,971
Interest expense	(6,633,709)	(5,763,684)
Other income (expense), net	106,586	(172,031)
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes	(1,286,395)	1,368,256
Income tax (provision) benefit	(18,997,756)	2,270,792
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(20,284,151)	3,639,048
Discontinued operations		
Loss from discontinued operations before income taxes	(238,253)	(10,226,996)
Income tax benefit of discontinued operations	(64,328)	(585,467)
Loss from discontinued operations	(173,925)	(9,641,529)
Net loss	\$ (20,458,076)	\$ (6,002,481)
Basic earnings (loss) per share from:		
Continuing operations	(0.76)	0.14
Discontinued operations	(0.01)	(0.37)
Basic net loss per share	(0.77)	(0.23)
Fully diluted earnings (loss) per share from:		
Continuing operations	(0.76)	0.14
Discontinued operations	(0.01)	(0.37)
Fully diluted net loss per share	(0.77)	(0.23)
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding		
Basic	26,717,910	26,491,549
Diluted	26,717,910	26,491,549

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

	Fiscal Years Ended	
	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Net loss	\$ (20,458,076)	\$ (6,002,481)
Other comprehensive income (loss)		
Unrealized changes in fair value of interest rate swaps, net of tax of (\$335,371) and (\$37,319)	651,014	72,445
Comprehensive loss	\$ (19,807,062)	\$ (5,930,036)

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Accumulated Deficit	Total Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)
	Shares	Amount				
Balances - December 27, 2015	26,298,725	\$ 2,597	\$ 36,136,319	\$ (1,006,667)	\$ (18,531,897)	\$ 16,600,352
Issuance of restricted shares	398,164	—	—	—	—	—
Forfeitures of restricted shares	(84,817)	—	—	—	—	—
Shares effectively repurchased for required employee withholding taxes	(8,114)	(1)	(12,391)	—	—	(12,392)
Employee stock purchase plan	28,264	4	40,599	—	—	40,603
Share-based compensation	—	10	435,845	—	—	435,855
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	72,445	—	72,445
Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's	—	—	(15,245,102)	—	—	(15,245,102)
Net income from continuing operations	—	—	—	—	3,639,048	3,639,048
Net loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	—	(9,641,529)	(9,641,529)
Balances - December 25, 2016	26,632,222	\$ 2,610	\$ 21,355,270	\$ (934,222)	\$ (24,534,378)	\$ (4,110,720)
Adoption of ASU 2016-09 (Note 1)	—	—	—	—	268,000	268,000
Issuance of restricted shares	263,332	—	—	—	—	—
Forfeitures of restricted shares	(50,850)	—	—	—	—	—
Shares effectively repurchased for required employee withholding taxes	(22,716)	(2)	(62,147)	—	—	(62,149)
Employee stock purchase plan	37,137	4	65,196	—	—	65,200
Share-based compensation	—	13	418,083	—	—	418,096
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	651,014	—	651,014
Net loss from continuing operations	—	—	—	—	(20,284,151)	(20,284,151)
Net loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	—	(173,925)	(173,925)
Balances - December 31, 2017	26,859,125	\$ 2,625	\$ 21,776,402	\$ (283,208)	\$ (44,724,454)	\$ (23,228,635)

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Fiscal Years Ended	
	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net loss	\$ (20,458,076)	\$ (6,002,481)
Net loss from discontinued operations	173,925	9,641,529
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	(20,284,151)	3,639,048
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization	13,115,072	14,696,846
Amortization of debt discount and loan fees	294,103	238,784
Amortization of gain on sale-leaseback	(131,617)	(128,782)
Loss on asset disposals	310,536	338,306
Share-based compensation	418,096	435,845
Deferred income taxes	18,943,427	(2,270,792)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities that provided (used) cash		
Accounts receivable	(376,864)	(28,915)
Inventory	109,241	(102,225)
Prepaid and other assets	896,954	8,527
Intangible assets	(48,806)	(73,150)
Other long-term assets	48,217	753,960
Accounts payable	555,089	(1,771,388)
Accrued liabilities	(1,357,970)	1,143,880
Deferred rent	182,477	107,737
Net cash provided by operating activities of continuing operations	12,673,804	16,987,681
Net cash used in operating activities of discontinued operations	(173,925)	(5,863,807)
Net cash provided by operating activities	12,499,879	11,123,874
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment	(4,687,242)	(12,499,507)
Net cash used in investing activities of continuing operations	(4,687,242)	(12,499,507)
Net cash used in investing activities of discontinued operations	—	(907,890)
Net cash used in investing activities	(4,687,242)	(13,407,397)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	4,650,965	11,109,154
Repayments of long-term debt	(12,116,623)	(16,134,717)
Payment of loan fees	—	(197,889)
Proceeds from employee stock purchase plan	65,200	40,603
Tax withholding for restricted stock	(62,149)	(12,392)
Capital infusion to discontinued component	—	(2,000,000)
Net cash used in financing activities	(7,462,607)	(7,195,241)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	350,030	(9,478,764)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	4,021,126	13,499,890
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 4,371,156	\$ 4,021,126

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS AND SUBSIDIARIES, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

1 . NATURE OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

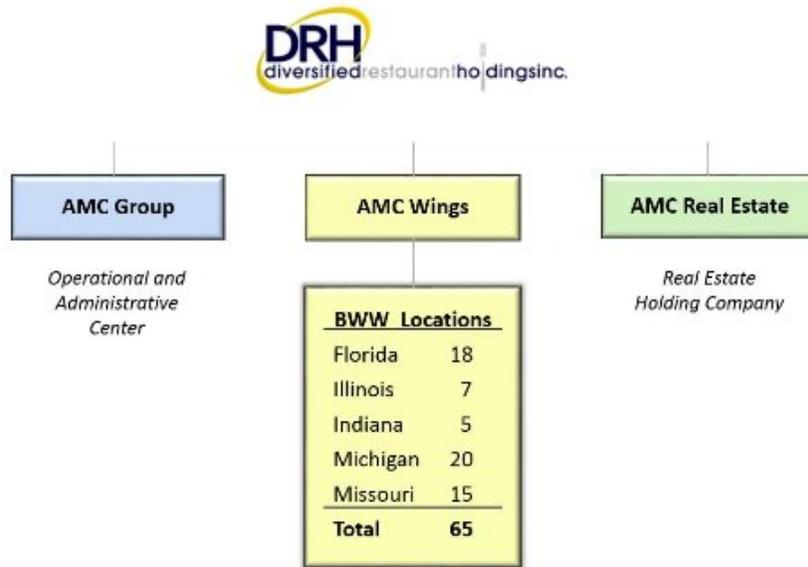
Nature of Business

Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. (“DRH”) is a restaurant company operating a single concept, Buffalo Wild Wings® (“BWW”). As one of the largest franchisee of BWW, we provide a unique guest experience in a casual and inviting environment.

DRH currently operates 65 BWW restaurants (20 in Michigan, 18 in Florida, 15 in Missouri, 7 in Illinois and 5 in Indiana), including the nation’s largest BWW, based on square footage, in downtown Detroit, Michigan.

On December 25, 2016, the Company completed a spin-off of 19 Bagger Dave's entities and certain real estate entities which house the respective Bagger Dave's entities previously owned by DRH into a new independent publicly traded company, Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc. ("Bagger Dave's"). For additional details refer to Note 2 .

DRH and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, the “Company”), AMC Group, Inc. (“AMC”), AMC Wings, Inc. (“WINGS”), and AMC Real Estate, Inc. (“REAL ESTATE”) own and operate BWW restaurants located throughout Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Missouri. The following organizational chart outlines the current corporate structure of DRH. A brief textual description of the entities follows the organizational chart. DRH is incorporated in Nevada.



AMC was formed on March 28, 2007 and serves as our operational and administrative center. AMC renders management, operational support, and advertising services to WINGS and REAL ESTATE and their subsidiaries. Services rendered by AMC include marketing, restaurant operations, restaurant management consultation, hiring and training of management and staff, and other management services reasonably required in the ordinary course of restaurant operations.

WINGS was formed on March 12, 2007 and serves as a holding company for our BWW restaurants. We are economically dependent on retaining our franchise rights with BWLD. The franchise agreements have specific initial term expiration dates ranging from December 2020 through June 2037 , depending on the date each was executed and the duration of its initial term. The franchise agreements are renewable at the option of the franchisor and are generally renewable if the franchisee has complied with the franchise agreement. When factoring in any applicable renewals, the franchise agreements have specific expiration dates ranging from December 2025 through June 2052 . We believe we are in compliance with the terms of these agreements.

REAL ESTATE was formed on March 18, 2013 and serves as the holding company for any real estate properties owned by DRH. Currently, DRH does not own any real estate.

**DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS AND SUBSIDIARIES, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We follow accounting standards set by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"). The FASB sets generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America ("GAAP") that we follow to ensure we consistently report our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows. References to GAAP issued by the FASB in these footnotes are to the FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC").

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All inter-company accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

For Variable Interest Entities ("VIE(s)"), we assess whether we are the primary beneficiary as prescribed by the accounting guidance on the consolidation of VIE. The primary beneficiary of a VIE is the party that has the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the performance of the entity and the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits that could potentially be significant to the entity. See Note 3 to the accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements for more details.

Segment Reporting

As of December 31, 2017, the Company has one operating and reportable segment.

Fiscal Year

The Company utilizes a 52- or 53-week accounting period that ends on the last Sunday in December. Fiscal year 2017 ended on December 31, 2017 and was comprised of 53 weeks. Fiscal year 2016 ended on December 25, 2016 was comprised of 52 weeks.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and demand deposits in banks. The Company considers all highly-liquid investments purchased with original maturities of three months or less to be cash and cash equivalents. The Company, at times throughout the year, may, in the ordinary course of business, maintain cash balances in excess of federally-insured limits. Management does not believe the Company is exposed to any unusual risks on such deposits.

Accounts Receivable

At December 31, 2017, accounts receivable primarily consist of contractually determined receivables from BWLD for gift card reimbursements. At December 25, 2016, accounts receivable primarily consist of contractually determined receivables from BWLD for local media advertising reimbursements. Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect. Balances that are outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off with a corresponding charge to bad debt expense. There was no allowance for doubtful accounts necessary at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016.

Gift Cards

The Company records gift cards under a BWLD system-wide program. Gift cards sold are recorded as a gift card liability. When redeemed, the gift card liability account is offset by recording the transaction as revenue. At times, gift card redemptions can exceed amounts due to BWLD for gift card purchases resulting in an asset balance. Under this centralized system, any breakage would be recorded by Blazin' Wings, Inc., a subsidiary of BWLD, and is subject to the breakage laws in the state of Minnesota, where Blazin' Wings, Inc. is domiciled. The Company's gift card balance was an asset of \$0.5 million and liability of \$0.1 million as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively.

Inventory

Inventory consists mainly of food and beverage products and is accounted for at the lower of cost or market using the first in, first out method of inventory valuation. Cash flows related to inventory sales are classified in net cash provided by operating activities in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS AND SUBSIDIARIES, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Prepays and Other Long-Term Assets

Prepaid assets consist principally of prepaid insurance and contracts and are recognized ratably as operating expense over the period of future benefit. Other assets consist primarily of security deposits for operating leases and utilities.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Equipment and furniture and fixtures are depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which range from three to seven years. Leasehold improvements, which include the cost of improvements funded by landlord incentives or allowances, are amortized using the straight-line method over the lesser of the term of the lease, without consideration of renewal options, or the estimated useful lives of the assets, which is typically five - 15 years. Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred. Upon retirement or disposal of assets, the cost and accumulated depreciation are eliminated from the respective accounts and the related gains or losses are credited or charged to earnings.

The Company capitalizes items associated with construction but not yet placed into service, known as construction in progress (“CIP”). Items capitalized include fees associated with the design, build out, furnishing of the restaurants, leasehold improvements, construction period interest (when applicable), equipment, and furniture and fixtures. Restaurant CIP is not amortized or depreciated until the related assets are placed into service. Items are placed into service according to their asset category when the restaurant is open for service.

Intangible Assets

Amortizable intangible assets consist of franchise fees, trademarks, non-compete agreements, favorable and unfavorable operating leases, and loan fees and are stated at cost, less accumulated amortization. Intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life, as follows: Franchise fees- 10 – 20 years, Trademarks- 15 years, Non-compete- 3 years, Favorable and unfavorable leases - over the term of the respective leases and Loan fees - over the term of the respective loan.

Liquor licenses, if transferable, are deemed to have an indefinite life and are carried at the lower of fair value or cost. We identify potential impairments for liquor licenses by comparing the fair value with its carrying amount. If the fair value exceeds the carrying amount, the liquor licenses are not impaired. If the fair value of the asset is less than the carrying amount, an impairment charge is recorded. No impairments were recognized in fiscal years ended December 25, 2017 and December 27, 2016.

Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets

We review long-lived assets quarterly to determine if triggering events have occurred which would require a test to determine if the carrying amount of these assets may not be recoverable based on estimated future cash flows. Assets are reviewed at the lowest level for which cash flows can be identified, which is at the individual restaurant level. In the absence of extraordinary circumstances, restaurants are included in the impairment analysis after they have been open for two years. We evaluate the recoverability of a restaurant’s long-lived assets, including intangibles, leasehold improvements, furniture, fixtures, and equipment over the remaining life of the primary asset in the asset group, after considering the potential impact of planned operational improvements, marketing programs, and anticipated changes in the trade area. In determining future cash flows, significant estimates are made by management with respect to future operating results for each restaurant over the remaining life of the primary asset in the asset group. If assets are determined to be impaired, the impairment charge is measured by calculating the amount by which the asset carrying amount exceeds its fair value based on our estimate of discounted future cash flows. The determination of asset fair value is also subject to significant judgment. During the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, there were no impairments of long-lived assets pertaining to continuing operations.

We account for exit or disposal activities, including restaurant closures, in accordance with ASC Topic 420, *Exit or Disposal Cost Obligations*. Such costs include the cost of disposing of the assets as well as other facility-related expenses from previously closed restaurants. These costs are generally expensed as incurred. Additionally, at the date we cease using a property under an operating lease, we record a liability for the net present value of any remaining lease obligations, net of estimated sublease income. Any subsequent adjustments to that liability as a result of lease termination or changes in estimates of sublease income are recorded in the period incurred.

**DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS AND SUBSIDIARIES, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Goodwill

Goodwill is not amortized and represents the excess of cost over the fair value of identified net assets of businesses acquired. Goodwill is subject to an annual impairment analysis or more frequently if indicators of impairment exist. At both December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, we had goodwill of \$50.1 million. The goodwill is assigned to the Company's Buffalo Wild Wings reporting unit, which, due to the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's on December 25, 2016, represents the Company's only reporting unit.

The Company assesses goodwill for impairment on an annual basis during the fourth quarter, or more frequently if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. The Company's assessment first reviews relevant qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not (a likelihood of more than 50%) that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. In evaluating whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, we assess relevant events and circumstances. If, after assessing the totality of events and circumstances, we determine that it is more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying amount, the quantitative impairment test would be necessary. Conversely, if it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying amount, further action would not be required.

We early adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2017-04, Topic 350: Intangibles - Goodwill and Other: Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment ("ASU 2017-04") as of September 25, 2017, the beginning of our fourth quarter. ASU 2017-04 requires goodwill impairment to be measured as the excess of the carrying value over the fair value of the reporting unit, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. Previously goodwill impairment was measured as the excess of carrying value over the implied fair value of goodwill. The carrying value of our reporting unit as of September 25, 2017 was negative, and therefore goodwill was not impaired as of December 31, 2017. As a result of our qualitative assessment as of December 25, 2016, we determined it was not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit was below the carrying value and therefore no impairment was calculated.

Deferred Rent

Certain operating leases provide for minimum annual payments that increase over the life of the lease. Typically, our operating leases contain renewal options under which we may extend the initial lease terms for periods of five to 10 years. The aggregate minimum annual payments are expensed on a straight-line basis commencing at the start of our construction period and extending over the term of the related lease, including option renewals as deemed reasonably assured. The amount by which straight-line rent exceeds actual lease payment requirements in the early years of the lease is accrued as deferred rent liability and reduced in later years when the actual cash payment requirements exceed the straight-line expense. The Company also accounts, in its straight-line computation, for the effect of any "rental holidays", "free rent periods", and "landlord incentives or allowances".

Deferred Gains

Deferred gains from sale leaseback transactions are recognized into income over the life of the related operating lease agreements.

Revenue Recognition

Revenues from food, beverage and merchandise sales are recognized and generally collected at the point of sale. All sales taxes are presented on a net basis and are excluded from revenue.

Advertising

Advertising expenses associated with contributions to the BWLD advertising fund and regional cooperatives (between 3.15% and 3.50% of total net sales) are recorded as operating expenses as contributed, while all other advertising expenses are recorded in general and administrative expenses as incurred. Advertising and co-op expenses of continuing operations of \$5.4 million and \$5.6 million are included in other operating costs in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and advertising expense of \$0.8 million and \$1.1 million are included in general and administrative expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively. Advertising expenses in discontinued operations of \$0 and \$1.1 million are presented as such in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively.

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Pre-opening Costs

Pre-opening costs are those costs associated with opening new restaurants and will vary based on the number of new locations opening and under construction. Pre-opening costs typically consist of manager salaries, relocation costs, supplies, recruiting expenses, certain marketing costs and costs associated with team member training. The Company also reclassifies labor costs that exceed the historical average for the first three months of restaurant operations that are attributable to training. These costs are expensed as incurred. Pre-opening costs in continuing operations were \$0.4 million and \$0.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively. Excess labor cost incurred after restaurant opening and included in pre-opening cost were approximately \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively.

Income Taxes

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are computed for differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities that will result in taxable or deductible amounts in the future, based on enacted tax laws and rates applicable to the periods in which the differences are expected to affect taxable income. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. Income tax expense is the tax payable or refundable for the period plus or minus the change during the period in deferred tax assets and liabilities.

The Company applies the provisions of ASC Topic 740, *Income Taxes*, regarding the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. The Company classifies all interest and penalties as income tax expense. There are no accrued interest amounts or penalties related to uncertain tax positions as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016.

Earnings Per Common Share

Earnings per share are calculated under the provisions of FASB ASC 260, *Earnings per Share*, which requires a dual presentation of "basic" and "diluted" earnings per share on the face of the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Basic earnings per common share excludes dilution and is computed by dividing the net earnings available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per common share include dilutive common stock equivalents consisting of stock options determined by the treasury stock method. Restricted stock awards contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends, making such awards participating securities. The calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share uses an earnings allocation method to consider the impact of restricted stock.

Share-based Compensation

The Company estimates the fair value of stock option awards utilizing the Black-Scholes pricing model. The fair value of the awards is amortized as compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award, which is generally the vesting period. The fair value of restricted shares is equal to the number of restricted shares issued times the Company's stock price on the date of grant and is amortized as compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the service period of the award.

Concentration Risks

Approximately 76.9% and 77.4% of the Company's continuing revenues for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively, were generated from food and beverage sales from restaurants located in the Midwest region. The remaining 23.1% and 22.6% of the Company's continuing revenues for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively, were generated from food and beverage sales from restaurants located in Florida.

Use of Estimates

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

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Interest Rate Swap Agreements

The Company utilizes interest rate swap agreements with Citizens Bank, N.A. ("Citizens") and other banks to fix interest rates on a portion of the Company's portfolio of variable rate debt, which reduces exposure to interest rate fluctuations. Our derivative financial instruments are recorded at fair value on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives which qualify for hedge accounting is recorded in other comprehensive income and is recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Operations when the hedged item affects earnings. Ineffective portion of the change in fair value of a hedge would be recognized in income immediately. The Company does not use any other types of derivative financial instruments to hedge such exposures, nor does it use derivatives for speculative purposes.

The interest rate swap agreements associated with the Company's current debt agreements qualify for hedge accounting. As such, the Company records the change in the fair value of its swap agreements as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax. The Company records the fair value of its interest swaps on the Consolidated Balance Sheets in other long-term assets or other liabilities depending on the fair value of the swaps. See Note 7 and Note 14 for additional information on the interest rate swap agreements.

Blazin' Rewards® Loyalty Program

In 2017, the Company completed the implementation of a customer loyalty program, Blazin' Rewards®. The program allows members to earn points when they make purchases at our restaurants. The Company developed an estimate for the value of each point based on historical data. We record the fair value, net of estimated breakage, of the points as a reduction of restaurant sales and establish a liability within deferred revenue as the points are earned. Breakage is the percentage of points earned that are not expected to be redeemed. The revenue associated with the points is recognized upon the redemption of the points. Points generally expire after six months of inactivity.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In August 2017, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued ASU 2017-12, *Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities* (ASU 2017-12). The amendment expands an entity's ability to hedge accounting to non-financial and financial risk components and requires changes in fair value of hedging instruments to be presented in the same income statement line as the hedged item. The ASU also amends the presentation and disclosure requirements for the effect of hedge accounting. The ASU must be adopted using a modified retrospective approach with a cumulative effect adjustment recorded to the opening balance of retained earnings as of the initial application date. The ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018 and interim periods therein. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is in the process of assessing the impact of this ASU on its consolidated results of operations, cash flows, financial position and disclosures.

In May 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-09, *Compensation - Stock Compensation: Scope of Modification Accounting*. ASU 2017-09 provides guidance about which changes to the terms or conditions of a share-based payment award require an entity to apply modification accounting. The updated guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and early adoption is permitted. We do not believe the updated requirements will materially impact our consolidated financial statements.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-15, *Topic 230: Statement of Cash Flows: Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments* ("ASU 2016-15"). ASU 2016-15 clarifies current GAAP that is either unclear or does not include specific guidance on a number of specific issues. The amendments set forth are an improvement to GAAP because they provide guidance for each issue and reduce the current and potential future diversity in practice. ASU 2016-15 is effective for public business entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted, including adoption in an interim period. We are currently evaluating the pending adoption of ASU 2016-15 and the impact it will have on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2016, FASB issued ASU 2016-02, *Leases*. ASU 2016-02 requires that lease arrangements longer than 12 months result in a lessee recognizing a lease asset and liability. Leases will be classified as either finance or operating, with classification affecting the pattern of expense recognition in the income statement. The updated guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and early adoption is permitted. We have analyzed the impact of the new standard and concluded that the adoption of ASU 2016-02 will materially impact our consolidated financial statements by significantly increasing our non-current assets and non-current liabilities on our consolidated balance sheets in order to record the right of use assets and related lease liabilities for our existing operating leases. Operating leases comprise the majority of our current lease portfolio. With respect

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to implementation, we are currently reviewing the accounting standard and are not yet able to estimate the impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2014-09 *Revenue with Contracts from Customers* (Topic 606). ASU 2014-09 supersedes the current revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific guidance. The guidance introduces a five-step model to achieve its core principal of the entity recognizing revenue to depict the transfer of goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-04, *Liabilities - Extinguishments of Liabilities: Recognition of Breakage for Certain Prepaid Stored-Value Products*. ASU 2016-04 provides specific guidance for the de-recognition of prepaid stored-value product liabilities. In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-08, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers: Principal versus Agent Considerations (Reporting Revenue Gross versus Net)*. ASU 2016-08 provides specific guidance to determine whether an entity is providing a specified good or service itself or is arranging for the good or service to be provided by another party. In April 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-10, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers: Identifying Performance Obligations and Licensing." ASU 2016-10 provides clarification on the subjects of identifying performance obligations and licensing implementation guidance.

The requirements for these standards relating to Topic 606 will be effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017. The Company will adopt these standards upon their effective date. The Company has substantially completed its evaluation of the standard, and our assessment concludes that the new revenue recognition standard will not materially impact the recognition of restaurant sales, our primary source of revenue, or any other revenue stream. Additionally, this guidance will require us to enhance our disclosures, including disclosing performance obligations to customers arising from certain promotional activity, such as our customer loyalty program which is not material as of December 31, 2017. The Company is finalizing our conclusion of the disclosures surrounding disaggregated revenue, and will complete the assessment prior to filing our first quarter Form 10-Q in 2018. With respect to the transition method for adoption, we will adopt this standard using the modified retrospective approach.

We reviewed all other significant newly-issued accounting pronouncements and concluded that they either are not applicable to our operations or that no material effect is expected on our consolidated financial statements as a result of future adoption.

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

In January 2017, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2017-04, *Topic 350: Intangibles - Goodwill and Other: Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment* ("ASU 2017-04"). ASU 2017-04 simplified wording and removes step 2 of the goodwill impairment test. A goodwill impairment will now be the amount by which a reporting units carrying value exceeds its fair value, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. ASU 2017-04 is effective for annual or interim goodwill impairment tests in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020, with early adoption permitted for interim or annual goodwill impairment tests on testing dates after January 1, 2017. The Company adopted the standard as of the first day of the fourth quarter, September 25, 2017.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Topic 718: *Compensation - Stock Compensation: Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting* ("ASU 2016-09"). ASU 2016-09 simplifies several aspects of accounting for share-based payment award transactions, including income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities and classification on the statement of cash flows. ASU 2016-09 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption permitted. Beginning in fiscal 2017, the tax effects of awards will be recognized in the statement of operations. In addition, the Company will account for forfeitures as they occur.

Effective December 26, 2016, the Company adopted the accounting guidance contained within ASU 2016-09. As a result, the Company recorded a deferred tax asset and retained earnings increase of \$268,000 to recognize the Company's excess tax benefits that existed as of December 25, 2016, on the Consolidated Balance Sheet.

2 . DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's

On August 4, 2016, DRH announced that its Board of Directors unanimously approved a plan to pursue a tax-free spin-off of its Bagger Dave's business. Pursuant to this plan, DRH contributed its 100.0% owned entity, AMC Burgers, LLC and certain real estate entities into Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc., a newly created Nevada company, which was then spun-off into a stand-

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alone company. AMC Burgers, Inc. owned and operated all of the Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern ® restaurants and the real estate entities held certain real estate related to the restaurants before the real estate was sold in 2014 and 2015. In connection with the Spin-Off, DRH contributed certain assets, liabilities and employees related to its Bagger Dave's businesses. Intercompany balances due to/from DRH, which included amounts from sales, were contributed to equity of Bagger Dave's. The Spin-Off was effected on December 25, 2016 via a one-for-one distribution of common shares in Bagger Dave's to DRH holders of record on December 19, 2016.

As part of the Spin-Off transaction, DRH agreed to fund a one-time \$2.0 million cash distribution to Bagger Dave's and agreed that, if deemed necessary within twelve months after the date of the Spin-Off, up to \$1 million of additional cash funding may be considered upon approval by DRH and its lenders. As of December 31, 2017, this provision has lapsed and no additional funding has been provided.

Prior to the Spin-Off, Bagger Dave's was a co-obligor on a joint and several basis with the Company on its \$155.0 million senior secured credit facility. The Company's debt under this facility remained with the Company and Bagger Dave's was released as a borrower. As a result, this debt was not assigned to discontinued operations. Additionally, DRH retained substantially all of the tax benefits (net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards) generated by Bagger Dave's prior to the date of the transaction. See Note 9 for additional information related to income taxes.

DRH decided to spin-off Bagger Dave's after considering all reasonable strategic and structural alternatives because of the disparity between the operating models of its two brands, BWW as franchisee, and Bagger Dave's as an owned concept. The management teams of Bagger Dave's and DRH agreed that the nature of the two concepts varied greatly, and that each would be more valuable and operate more effectively independently of one another. Bagger Dave's is a concept developed by the management team of DRH. In contrast to operating a franchised concept like BWW it has no development restrictions and the flexibility to enhance brand attributes such as logos, trade dress and restaurant design, change its menu offering and improve its operational model in an effort to better align with guest expectations. To manage these functions effectively, specific resources are required that are not necessary for a franchisee. For example, menu development, purchasing and brand marketing are critical to the success of Bagger Dave's but not necessary for a BWW franchisee since these functions are managed by the franchisor. Additionally, as a start-up brand, Bagger Dave's has both higher risk and higher growth potential while BWW, being a mature brand and as a franchisee, has more limited organic growth potential due to the status of its existing market penetration and the need to obtain development rights from the franchisor.

In conjunction with the Spin-Off, DRH entered into a transition services agreement (the "TSA") with Bagger Dave's pursuant to which DRH provided certain information technology and human resources support, limited accounting support, and other minor administrative functions at no charge. The TSA was intended to assist the discontinued component in efficiently and seamlessly transitioning to stand on its own. Certain provisions of the TSA terminated in December 2017 and the First Amendment to TSA (the "Amended TSA") was entered into effective January 1, 2018. Under the Amended TSA, DRH will provide ongoing administrative support to Bagger in certain areas, including information technology, human resources and real estate, in exchange for a fee based on a rate-per-hour of service.

Information related to the Bagger Dave's Spin-Off has been reflected in the accompanying consolidated financial statements as follows:

- Consolidated Statements of Operations - Bagger Dave's results of operations for the year ended December 25, 2016 as well as activity related to Bagger Dave's for the year ended December 31, 2017 have been presented as discontinued operations. There was no gain or loss on the transaction recorded.
- Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows - Bagger Dave's cash flows from operating and investing activities for the year ended December 25, 2016 as well as activity related to Bagger Dave's for the year ended December 31, 2017 have been presented separately on the face of the cash flow statements. The Bagger Dave's cash flows from financing activities for the year ended December 25, 2016 have not been separately reported on the consolidated statements of cash flows since there was only one financing function for both entities.

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The following are major classes of line items constituting pre-tax loss from discontinued operations:

	Fiscal Years Ended	
	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Revenue	\$ —	\$ 20,741,427
Restaurant operating costs (exclusive of depreciation and amortization)	95,536	(21,436,377)
General and administrative expenses	(334,529)	(2,881,467)
Depreciation and amortization	740	(3,353,194)
Pre-opening costs	—	(362,064)
Other income	—	11,066
Impairment and loss on asset disposals	—	(2,946,387)
Loss from discontinued operations before income taxes	(238,253)	(10,226,996)
Income tax benefit	64,328	585,467
Total loss from discontinued operations	\$ (173,925)	\$ (9,641,529)

The operating results of the discontinued operations include only direct expenses incurred by Bagger Dave's. Discontinued operations exclude certain corporate functions that were previously allocated to Bagger Dave's. Interest expense was not allocated to discontinued operations because the Company's debt under the \$155 million secured credit facility remained with the Company.

The following table summarizes the Company's accrual activity related to facility closures during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 :

	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2016
Beginning of the year	\$ 107,153	\$ 1,247,186
Charges	—	—
Payments/utilizations/other	(107,153)	(1,140,033)
End of the year	\$ —	\$ 107,153

The closure liability of \$0.1 million was retained by the Company after the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's, as it was responsible for certain ongoing lease payments associated with the closures.

Based on impairment indicators that existed in the fourth quarter of 2016, the Company performed an impairment analysis on certain long-lived assets relating to Bagger Dave's and recorded an impairment charge of \$3.5 million related to seven locations where the carrying amount of the assets was not considered recoverable based on the estimated future cash flows of the restaurants. The impairment charge is recorded in discontinued operations.

The following is a summary of the expenses recognized in discontinued operations in the Consolidated Statement of Operations during the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 related to the restaurant closures and impairment of property and equipment:

Description	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2016
Property and equipment impairments	\$ —	\$ 3,548,515

During 2016, Bagger Dave's recorded other asset disposal gains of \$0.6 million in discontinued operations.

Prior to the Spin-Off, Bagger Dave's was a reportable segment of the Company. Following the Spin-Off, there were no assets or liabilities remaining from the Bagger Dave's operations as of December 25, 2016. See Note 3 for a discussion of involvement the Company will continue to have with Bagger Dave's after the Spin-Off.

3 . UNCONSOLIDATED VARIABLE INTEREST ENTITIES

After the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's and the related discontinuation of its operations described in Note 2 , the Company remains involved with certain activities that result in Bagger Dave's being considered a VIE. This conclusion results primarily from the

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existence of guarantees by the Company of certain Bagger Dave's leases as described below under "Lease Guarantees". While the Company holds a variable interest in Bagger Dave's, it is not considered to be its primary beneficiary because it does not have the power to direct the activities of Bagger Dave's. Specifically, we considered the fact that, although three of the Company's executive officers are currently also on Bagger Dave's board, there are no agreements in place that require these executive officers to vote in the interests of the Company, as these executive officers do not represent the Company in their capacity as Bagger Dave's directors. Furthermore, they remain on the board of Bagger Dave's so long as the shareholders annually elect them. At any time, these board members can be replaced by a vote of the Bagger Dave's shareholders. As a result, the Company does not consolidate the VIE.

Lease Guarantees

At December 31, 2017 the Company is a guarantor for 16 leases, three of which have been re-leased to an unaffiliated party. In the event the respective lessees cannot make their lease payments, the Company may become responsible for the payments under its guarantee.

Upon Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's, in accordance with ASC 460, *Guarantees*, the Company evaluated its liability from the lease guarantees first by estimating the non-contingent component representing the estimated fair market value of the guarantees at inception, and recorded a liability in the amount of \$0.3 million, which is included in other liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016. No liability had previously been recorded before the Spin-Off, as a result of the affiliate relationship between the Company and Bagger Dave's.

Secondly, the Company considered the contingent component of the guarantees and concluded that, as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, no loss under the guarantees was probable because all but one of the Bagger Dave's restaurants subject to the leases is either currently operating or the site has been leased to another tenant who is responsible for, and making, the lease payments.

The Company has determined that its maximum exposure resulting from the lease guarantees includes approximately \$8.4 million of future minimum lease payments plus potential additional payments to satisfy maintenance, property tax and insurance requirements under the leases as of December 31, 2017. The terms and conditions of the guarantees vary, and each guarantee has an expiration date which may or may not correspond with the end of the underlying lease term. The guarantee expiration dates range from less than 1 month to 12 years as of December 31, 2017. In the event that the Company is required to perform under any of its lease guarantees, we do not believe the liability would be material because we would first seek to minimize the exposure by finding a suitable tenant to lease the space. In many cases, we expect that a replacement tenant would be found and the lessor would agree to release the Company from its future guarantee obligation. Since 2015, 10 Bagger Dave's locations with DRH lease guarantees were closed. New tenants were found to step into the Company's lease obligations for 8 of these locations in 3 to 14 months from the date of closure. Over this time, 7 guarantees expired or terminated, and 3 remain obligations of the Company. In reaching our conclusion, we also considered the following:

- the financial condition of Bagger Dave's, including its ability to service the lease payments on the locations it continues to operate;
- its history of incurring operating losses;
- its liquidity position and the actions available to it should its liquidity deteriorate to such a degree that its ability to service required lease payments is threatened; and
- the actions available to the Company to avoid or mitigate potential losses should Bagger Dave's become unable to service one or more of the leases that the Company guarantees.

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The following is a detailed listing of all Bagger Dave's leases that include a guarantee by the Company as of December 31, 2017 :

Location of lease	Status of location	Guarantee expiry date	Future guaranteed lease payments
Bloomfield, MI ¹	Open	01/14/18	3,750
Shelby Township, MI ¹	Open	01/31/18	6,482
West Chester Township, MI	Open	02/01/18	7,083
Woodhaven, MI	Closed / re-leased	11/30/18	68,017
Traverse City, MI ¹	Open	01/31/19	99,167
Fort Wayne, IN	Open	01/31/19	91,121
Grand Blanc, MI	Open	01/31/20	147,167
Centerville, MI	Open	11/30/20	318,079
Chesterfield Township, MI	Open	12/31/20	195,000
E. Lansing, MI ¹	Open	09/10/21	75,000
Birch Run, MI	Open	12/31/24	667,875
Berkley, MI	Open	06/08/29	970,920
Cascade Township, MI	Open	06/08/29	891,054
Avon, IL	Closed / re-leased	06/30/29	1,452,204
Greenwood, IL	Closed / re-leased	06/30/29	1,503,360
Canton, MI ¹	Open	06/30/30	1,934,929
Totals			\$ 8,431,208

¹ - Location has closed subsequent to December 31, 2017 .

4 . PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

Property and equipment are comprised of the following:

	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Equipment	\$ 30,252,867	\$ 29,426,476
Furniture and fixtures	7,444,792	7,275,923
Leasehold improvements	64,936,413	63,449,082
Restaurant construction in progress	161,942	94,595
Total	102,796,014	100,246,076
Less accumulated depreciation	(54,781,971)	(43,616,045)
Property and equipment, net	\$ 48,014,043	\$ 56,630,031

Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2017 was 13.0 million , all of which related to continuing operations. Depreciation expense for the year ended December 25, 2016 was \$ 18.1 million , of which \$ 14.7 million related to continuing operations and \$ 3.4 million related to discontinued operations.

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5 . INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets are comprised of the following:

	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Amortized intangible assets		
Franchise fees	\$ 1,290,642	\$ 1,290,642
Trademark	2,500	2,500
Non-compete	76,560	76,560
Favorable operating leases	351,344	351,344
Loan fees	368,083	368,083
Total	2,089,129	2,089,129
Less accumulated amortization	(907,269)	(718,517)
Amortized intangible assets, net	1,181,860	1,370,612
Unamortized intangible assets		
Liquor licenses	1,256,327	1,295,752
Total intangible assets, net	\$ 2,438,187	\$ 2,666,364

Amortization expense for both years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 was \$ 0.1 million . Amortization of favorable/unfavorable leases and loan fees are reflected as part of occupancy and interest expense, respectively. Loan fees written off to interest expense during both years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 was \$0.1 million.

Based on the current intangible assets and their estimated useful lives, future intangible-related expense for the next five years and thereafter is projected as follows:

Year	Amount
2018	\$ 173,294
2019	172,735
2020	135,499
2021	86,781
2022	84,435
Thereafter	529,116
Total	\$ 1,181,860

The aggregate weighted-average amortization period for intangible assets is 8.4 years .

6 . OTHER ACCRUED LIABILITES

	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Sales tax payable	\$ 906,410	\$ 816,215
Accrued interest	481,431	442,976
Accrued royalty fees	179,114	129,621
Accrued property taxes	69,970	490,809
Accrued loyalty rewards	439,106	—
Other	328,911	762,648
Total accrued other liabilities	\$ 2,404,942	\$ 2,642,269

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7. LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt consists of the following obligations:

	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
\$120.0 million term loan - the rate at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 was 4.87% and 4.12%, respectively.	\$ 89,698,616	\$ 99,698,616
\$30.0 million development line of credit, converted to \$18.2 million facility term loan in December 2016 - the rate at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 was 4.87% and 4.21%, respectively.	16,682,853	18,199,476
\$5.0 million revolving line of credit - the rate at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 was 5.11% and 6.25%, respectively.	5,000,000	4,000,000
\$5.0 million development line of credit - the rate at December 31, 2017 was 5.00%.	3,050,965	—
Unamortized discount and debt issuance costs	(503,271)	(712,072)
Total debt	113,929,163	121,186,020
Less current portion	(11,440,433)	(11,307,819)
Long-term debt, net of current portion	\$ 102,488,730	\$ 109,878,201

On June 29, 2015, the Company entered into a five year \$155.0 million senior secured credit facility with a syndicate of lenders led by Citizens (the “Senior Secured Credit Facility”) with a senior lien on all the Company’s personal property and fixtures. The Senior Secured Credit Facility consists of a \$120.0 million term loan (the “Term Loan”), a \$30.0 million , development line of credit (the “DLOC”), and a \$5.0 million (see amendment details immediately following this paragraph) revolving line of credit (the “RLOC”).

On December 23, 2016, the Company entered into an amendment agreement for purposes of, among other things, releasing the Bagger Dave’s entities as borrowers and releasing all related liens on the Bagger Dave’s assets. In addition, the amendment (a) converted the amounts then outstanding under the DLOC to a development facility term loan (the “DF Term Loan” and, together with the Term Loan, the “Term Loans”), (b) canceled \$6.8 million previously available under the DLOC, and (c) extended the maturity date on the remaining \$5.0 million under the DLOC to June 29, 2018.

Payments of principal are based upon a 12 -year straight-line amortization schedule, with monthly principal payments of \$959,718 on the Term Loans, plus accrued interest. As of December 31, 2017 , \$5.0 million and \$3.1 million was outstanding under the RLOC and the DLOC, respectively. Availability under the DLOC is subject to certain limitations relative to actual development costs and access to the facility is restricted based on the Company’s leverage ratio. Outstanding balances convert into a DF Term Loan on June 29, 2018. Upon conversion, additional monthly principal will be due on the Term Loans based on the 12 -year amortization period, plus interest, through maturity on June 29, 2020. If the DLOC is not fully drawn by the end of the two years term, the outstanding principal balance becomes due based on the 12 - year amortization period. The entire remaining outstanding principal and accrued interest on the Senior Secured Credit Facility is due and payable on the maturity date of June 29, 2020.

The interest rate for each of the loans, as selected by the borrower, is based upon either a LIBOR or base rate (generally Prime or Fed Funds) plus an applicable margin, which ranges from 2.25% to 3.5% for LIBOR loans and from 1.25% to 2.5% for base rate loans, depending on the lease adjusted leverage ratio as defined in the agreement.

Fees related to the term debt are recorded as debt discount and fees related to the DLOC and RLOC are capitalized as intangible assets. Debt issuance costs represent legal, consulting and financial costs associated with debt financing. As a result of the December 2016 Amendment, the Company incurred \$197,889 of debt issuance costs recorded as a part of debt discount. Debt discount related to term debt, net of accumulated amortization, totaled \$503,271 and \$712,072 , at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively. The unamortized portion of capitalized debt issuance costs related to the DLOC and RLOC totaled \$244,336 and \$159,033 , at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively. Debt discount and debt issuance cost are amortized over the life of the debt and are recorded in interest expense using the effective interest method.

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Based on the long-term debt terms that existed at December 31, 2017, the scheduled principal maturities, net of unamortized discount, for the next five years and thereafter are summarized as follows:

	Amount
2018	\$ 11,440,433
2019	11,573,284
2020	90,915,446
2021	—
2022	—
Thereafter	—
Total	\$ 113,929,163

Interest expense was \$6.6 million and \$5.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively.

The current debt agreement contains various customary financial covenants generally based on the performance of the Company. The financial covenants consist of a minimum required consolidated debt service coverage ratio and a maximum permitted consolidated lease-adjusted leverage ratio. On June 30, 2017, the Company entered into an amendment agreement for purposes of revising the maximum lease adjusted leverage ratio and revising certain definitions impacting the calculation of the ratio. On February 28, 2018, the Company entered into an amendment agreement for purposes of modifying the maximum permitted consolidated lease-adjusted leverage ratio and the minimum required consolidated debt service coverage ratio, commencing with the fiscal quarter ending April 1, 2018 and through the quarter ending December 29, 2019. As of December 31, 2017 the Company was not in compliance with the loan covenants but, pursuant to the amendment dated February 28, 2018, the covenants for the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2017 were waived.

At December 31, 2017, the Company has five interest rate swap agreements to fix a portion of the interest rates on its variable rate debt. The swap agreements all qualify for hedge accounting. Under the swap agreements, the Company receives interest at the one-month LIBOR and pays a fixed rate. Since these swap agreements qualify for hedge accounting, the changes in fair value are recorded in Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax. See Note 1 and Note 14 for additional information pertaining to interest rate swaps.

The following tables summarize the fair values of derivative instruments designated as cash flow hedges which were outstanding:

Interest rate swaps	Rate	Expires	December 31, 2017		
			Notional amounts	Derivative assets	Derivative liabilities
April 2012	1.4%	April 2019	\$ 3,047,619	\$ 6,028	\$ —
July 2013	1.4%	April 2018	2,833,333	778	—
May 2014	1.5%	April 2018	7,142,857	—	408
January 2015	1.8%	December 2019	21,690,476	25,953	—
August 2015	2.3%	June 2020	60,412,798	—	461,455
Total			\$ 95,127,083	\$ 32,759	\$ 461,863

Interest rate swaps	Rate	Expires	December 25, 2016		
			Notional amounts	Derivative assets	Derivative liabilities
April 2012	1.4%	April 2019	\$ 5,333,333	\$ —	\$ 21,037
October 2012	0.9%	October 2017	2,357,143	—	723
July 2013	1.4%	April 2018	4,761,905	—	18,949
May 2014	1.5%	April 2018	9,285,714	—	58,359
January 2015	1.8%	December 2019	21,119,048	—	271,144
August 2015	2.3%	June 2020	49,696,875	—	1,045,279
Total			\$ 92,554,018	\$ —	\$ 1,415,491

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8 . SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company established a Stock Incentive Plan in 2011, and on July 13, 2017, the Company's shareholders approved a new stock incentive plan - the Stock Incentive Plan of 2017 ("Stock Incentive Plan") to attract and retain directors, consultants, and team members and to align their interests with the interests of the Company's shareholders through the opportunity for increased stock ownership. No further grants will be made under the Stock Incentive Plan of 2011.

The Stock Incentive Plan of 2017 authorized a total of 2,500,000 shares for issuance as incentive awards by way of stock options and/or restricted stock. Stock options must be awarded at exercise prices at least equal to or greater than 100.0% of the fair market value of the shares on the date of grant. The options will expire no later than 10 years from the date of grant, with vesting terms to be defined at grant date, ranging from a vesting schedule based on performance to a vesting schedule that extends over a period of time as selected by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (the "Committee") or another committee as determined by the Board of Directors. The Committee also determines the grant, issuance, retention, and vesting timing and conditions of awards of restricted stock. The Committee may place limitations, such as continued employment, passage of time, and/or performance measures, on restricted stock. Awards of restricted stock may not provide for vesting or settlement in full of restricted stock over a period of less than one year from the date the award is made.

Restricted share awards

During fiscal 2017 and 2016, restricted shares were issued to certain team members at a weighted-average grant date fair value of \$2.31 and \$1.47, respectively. Based on the Stock Award Agreement, shares typically vest ratably over either a one or three year period, or on the third anniversary of the grant date, as determined by the Committee. Unrecognized share-based compensation expense of \$0.8 million and \$0.5 million at December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively, will be recognized over the remaining weighted-average vesting period of 1.7 years. The total fair value of shares vested during years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 was \$0.4 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. Under the Stock Incentive Plan of 2017, there are 2.3 million shares available for future awards at December 31, 2017.

The following table presents the restricted stock transactions for fiscal 2017:

	Number of Restricted Stock Shares
Unvested, December 25, 2016	473,391
Granted	263,332
Vested	(132,157)
Vested shares tax portion	(22,716)
Forfeited	(50,850)
Unvested, December 31, 2017	531,000

The following table presents the restricted stock transactions for fiscal 2016:

	Number of Restricted Stock Shares
Unvested, December 27, 2015	241,124
Granted	398,164
Vested	(72,966)
Vested shares tax portion	(8,114)
Forfeited	(84,817)
Unvested, December 25, 2016	473,391

As a result of the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's, all restricted shares previously awarded to Bagger Dave's employees were vested on a pro rata basis for time served through December 25, 2016 and were otherwise forfeited.

On July 30, 2010, prior to the Stock Incentive Plan, DRH granted options for the purchase of 210,000 shares of common stock to the directors of the Company. These options are fully vested and originally expired six years from issuance. On August 13, 2015,

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30,000 shares were exercised at a price of \$2.50 per share. The intrinsic value of the options exercised was \$6,300 . On July 28, 2016, the Stock Option Agreement of 2010 was amended to extend the expiration date of these options to July 31, 2019. The options can be exercised at a price of \$2.50 per share. At December 31, 2017 , 180,000 shares of authorized common stock are reserved for issuance to provide for the exercise of the remaining options. The intrinsic value of outstanding options was negligible as of both December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 .

Employee stock purchase plan

The Company also reserved 250,000 shares of common stock for issuance under the Employee Stock Purchase Plan (“ESPP”). The ESPP is available to team members subject to employment eligibility requirements. Participants may purchase common stock at 85.0% of the lesser of the start or end price for the offering period. The plan has four offering periods, each start/end dates coincide with the fiscal quarter and are awarded on the last day of the offering period. During the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 we issued 37,137 and 28,264 shares, respectively. Under the ESPP, there are 147,188 shares available for future purchase at December 31, 2017 .

Share-based compensation

Share-based compensation of \$0.4 million was recognized during both years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 as compensation costs in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and as additional paid-in capital on the Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Deficit) to reflect the fair value of shares vested.

Preferred stock

The Company has authorized 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock at a par value of \$0.0001 . No preferred shares are issued or outstanding as of December 31, 2017 . Any preferences, rights, voting powers, restrictions, dividend limitations, qualifications, and terms and conditions of redemption shall be set forth and adopted by a Board of Directors' resolution prior to issuance of any series of preferred stock.

9 . INCOME TAXES

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the Tax Act) was signed into law on December 22, 2017. The Tax Act includes a number of changes to existing U.S. tax laws that impact the Company, most notably a reduction of the U.S. corporate tax rate from 35% to 21% for tax years beginning after December 31, 2017. We recorded a charge of \$3.1 million in deferred income tax expense for the re-measurement of our net deferred tax asset at the 21% rate. The Tax Act also provides for acceleration of depreciation for certain assets placed into service after September 27, 2017, as well as prospective changes beginning in 2018, including additional limitations on deductibility of executive compensation, interest and employee meal benefits. Upon completion of our 2017 U.S. income tax return in 2018 we may identify additional re-measurement adjustments to our recorded deferred tax assets. Pursuant to the guidance within SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 118 (“SAB 118”), as of December 31, 2017, the Company recognized the provisional effects of the enactment of the Tax Legislation for which measurement could be reasonably estimated. As the impact is based on currently available information and interpretations, which are continuing to evolve, the impact should be considered provisional. We will continue to analyze additional information and guidance related to the Tax Act as supplemental legislation, regulatory guidance or evolving technical interpretations become available. The final impacts may differ from the recorded amounts as of December 31, 2017. Pursuant to SAB 118, any adjustments to the provisional amounts recorded by the Company as of December 31, 2017 that are identified within a subsequent measurement period of up to one year from the enactment date will be included as an adjustment to tax expense from continuing operations in the period the amounts are determined.

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The allocation of income taxes (benefit) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 was determined based on pretax income and the outcome of a restructuring completed prior to the Spin-Off which effectively triggered a tax status change of the legal entities making up the Bagger Dave's business in a manner which enables the continuing business parent entity to retain the majority of the tax benefits from losses and credits. Following the status change, the Company contributed all of the hard assets and liabilities of the Bagger Dave's entities into a newly formed entity, Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc., the stock of which was ultimately spun-off to shareholders. The income tax benefit allocated to discontinued operations for 2016 related to benefits generated during the period between the date that the Company contributed the hard assets and liabilities of the Bagger Dave's entities to Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc. and the date that the Spin-Off was completed. A valuation allowance reserve was deemed necessary for the net deferred tax assets of Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc., and the resulting deferred tax expense was allocated to continuing operations as required by ASC 740.

The income tax provision (benefit) from continuing operations consists of the following components for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 :

	Fiscal Years Ended	
	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Federal:		
Current	\$ —	\$ 19,911
Deferred	17,346,134	(1,823,443)
State:		
Current	(10,000)	(81,500)
Deferred	1,661,622	(385,760)
Income tax provision (benefit)	\$ 18,997,756	\$ (2,270,792)

The provision (benefit) for income taxes is different from that which would be obtained by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to income (loss) before income taxes. The items causing this difference are as follows:

	Fiscal Years Ended	
	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Income tax expense (benefit) at federal statutory rate	\$ (437,374)	\$ 465,207
State income tax	1,651,622	132,740
Permanent differences	506,867	70,206
Tax credits	(1,807,523)	(1,748,632)
Benefit resulting from restructuring	—	(3,016,513)
Change in valuation allowance	15,948,273	1,826,200
Rate difference - reduction to 21%	3,135,891	—
Income tax provision (benefit)	\$ 18,997,756	\$ (2,270,792)

In accordance with the provisions of ASC 740, a valuation allowance is established when it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Realization is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income or the reversal of deferred tax liabilities during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. We consider the reversal of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies. Management assesses the available positive and negative evidence to estimate whether sufficient future taxable income will be generated to permit use of the existing deferred tax assets. A significant piece of objective negative evidence evaluated was the cumulative loss incurred over the three-year period ended December 31, 2017. Such objective evidence limits the ability to consider other subjective evidence, such as our projections for future growth. As a result of this evaluation, as of December 31, 2017, a valuation allowance of \$15.9 million has been recorded because the Company is unable to assert that realization of the deferred tax asset is more likely than not. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable, however, could be adjusted if estimates of future taxable income increase or if objective negative evidence in the form of cumulative losses is no longer present and additional weight is given to subjective evidence such as our projections for growth.

On December 25, 2016 we completed the Spin-Off of Bagger Dave's, which had previously generated significant pre-tax losses. After the Spin-Off, the majority of the net deferred tax assets were retained by the Company, which in its continuing operations had a history of profitability and was expected to continue to generate pre-tax income in the future. This expected operating performance combined with the planned opening of additional BWW restaurants was expected provide future taxable income that

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would enable the Company to utilize the tax benefits prior to their expirations. Given this information, there was no valuation allowance recorded for the fiscal year ended December 25, 2016. While there was no allowance recorded against the deferred tax assets of the continuing operations, the Company incurred a one-time charge against the benefit for income taxes of \$1.8 million. This charge is the result of certain deferred tax assets relating to discontinued operations that were determined to be unrealizable by Bagger Dave's and is allocable to continuing operations as required by ASC 740.

Due to the restructuring involving a tax status change that occurred prior to the Spin-Off, the continuing operations retained tax benefits that were generated by discontinued operations amounting to \$3.0 million for the fiscal year ended December 25, 2016.

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. Significant components of the Company's deferred income tax assets and liabilities are summarized as follows:

	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss carry-forwards	\$ 6,798,685	\$ 11,223,494
Deferred rent expense	549,540	752,897
Start-up costs	81,962	129,152
Tax credit carry-forwards	8,366,915	6,559,392
Interest rate swaps	90,112	481,267
Sale leaseback deferred gain	314,598	629,924
Share-based compensation	218,853	239,925
Accrued closure liabilities	—	36,432
Other	296,721	967,812
Total deferred tax assets	16,717,386	21,020,295
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Tax depreciation in excess of book	881,810	2,366,739
Goodwill amortization in excess of book	2,647,173	2,402,628
Total deferred tax liabilities	3,528,983	4,769,367
Net deferred income tax asset, before valuation allowance	13,188,403	16,250,928
Valuation allowance on net deferred income tax assets	(15,948,273)	—
Net deferred income tax assets (liabilities)	\$ (2,759,870)	\$ 16,250,928

As of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, the Company has available federal and state net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$32.6 million and \$33.0 million, respectively. General business tax credits of \$8.4 million will expire between 2028 and 2037.

The Company applies the provisions of ASC 740 regarding the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. There are no amounts recorded on the Company's consolidated financial statements for uncertain positions. The Company classifies all interest and penalties as income tax expense. There are no accrued interest amounts or penalties related to uncertain tax positions as of December 31, 2017.

The Company files income tax returns in the United States federal jurisdiction and various state jurisdictions, and is subject to U.S. Federal, state, and local income tax examinations for tax years 2013 through 2016. The Company is currently under IRS exam for the 2014 fiscal year.

10 . OPERATING LEASES

The Company's lease terms generally include renewal options, and frequently require us to pay a proportionate share of real estate taxes, insurance, common area maintenance, and other operating costs. Some restaurant leases provide for contingent rental payments based on sales thresholds.

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Total rent expense was \$8.8 million and \$8.7 million for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively.

Scheduled future minimum lease payments for each of the five years and thereafter for non-cancelable operating leases for existing restaurants with initial or remaining lease terms in excess of one year at December 31, 2017 are summarized as follows:

Year	Amount
2018	\$ 8,947,232
2019	8,249,477
2020	8,170,861
2021	7,342,901
2022	6,566,555
Thereafter	27,162,972
Total	\$ 66,439,998

11 . COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Refer to Note 3 for a discussion of lease guarantees provided by the Company.

Franchise Related

The Company is required to pay BWLD royalties (5.0% of net sales) and advertising fund contributions (3.00% - 3.15% of net sales). In addition, the Company is required to spend an additional 0.25% - 0.5% of regional net sales related to advertising cooperatives for certain metropolitan markets for the term of the individual franchise agreements. The Company incurred \$8.3 million and \$8.3 million in royalty expense for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively. Advertising fund contribution expenses were \$5.4 million and \$5.5 million for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively. Amounts are recorded in Other operating costs on the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

The Company is required by its various BWLD franchise agreements to modernize the restaurants during the term of the agreements. The individual agreements generally require improvements between the fifth and tenth year to meet the most current design model that BWLD has approved. The modernization costs for a restaurant are expected to range from \$0.3 million to \$0.8 million depending on an individual restaurant's needs.

401(k) Plan

In 2017 and 2016 , we had a defined contribution 401(k) plan whereby eligible team members could contribute wages in accordance with the provisions of the plan. Each year the Company considers a discretionary contribution to the 401(k) plan. For fiscal 2017 , the match has not been determined. For 2016 , the discretionary match was 100.0% of 2.0% contributed, which equated to \$0.2 million .

Legal Proceedings

In August 2016, the Company and A Sure Wing, LLC settled a collective action that was filed on December 18, 2015 against AMC Wings, Inc. and the Company in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois by plaintiffs, David, et. al. A Sure Wing, LLC, the seller of the 18 St. Louis BWW restaurants acquired by the Company on June 29, 2015, was also named as a defendant. Plaintiffs primarily alleged that former and current tipped workers at the above-mentioned companies were assigned to perform tasks outside the scope of their tipped positions, in violation of Illinois and federal law. The Company filed an indemnity claim against A Sure Wing, LLC and received a reciprocal indemnity claim from A Sure Wing, LLC.

Additionally, the Company is subject to ordinary and routine legal proceedings, as well as demands, claims and threatened litigation, which arise in the ordinary course of its business. The ultimate outcome of any litigation is uncertain. We have insured and continue to insure against most of these types of claims. A judgment on any claim not covered by or in excess of our insurance coverage could materially adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

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12 . EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE

The following is a reconciliation of basic and fully diluted earnings per common share for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 :

	December 31, 2017	December 25, 2016
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (20,284,151)	\$ 3,639,048
Loss from discontinued operations	(173,925)	(9,641,529)
Net loss	\$ (20,458,076)	\$ (6,002,481)
Weighted-average shares outstanding	\$ 26,717,910	\$ 26,491,549
Effect of dilutive securities	—	—
Weighted-average shares outstanding - assuming dilution	\$ 26,717,910	\$ 26,491,549
Earnings per common share from continuing operations	\$ (0.76)	\$ 0.14
Earnings per common share from discontinued operations	(0.01)	(0.37)
Earnings per common share	\$ (0.77)	\$ (0.23)
Earnings per common share - assuming dilution - from continuing operations	\$ (0.76)	\$ 0.14
Earnings per common share - assuming dilution - from discontinued operations	(0.01)	(0.37)
Earnings per common share - assuming dilution	\$ (0.77)	\$ (0.23)

For the year ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , 531,000 and 473,391 shares, respectively, of unvested restricted stock were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share because such shares were anti-dilutive.

13 . SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOWS INFORMATION**Other Cash Flows Information**

Cash paid for interest was \$6.3 million and \$5.5 million during the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively. Cash paid for income taxes was \$0 and \$0.1 million during the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively.

Supplemental Schedule of Non-Cash Operating, Investing, and Financing Activities

Noncash investing activities for property and equipment not yet paid as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , was \$0.1 million each.

14 . FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The guidance for fair value measurements, FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* , establishes the authoritative definition of fair value, sets out a framework for measuring fair value, and outlines the required disclosures regarding fair value measurements. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. We use a three-tier fair value hierarchy based upon observable and non-observable inputs as follows:

- Level 1 Quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities;
- Level 2 Inputs, other than level 1 inputs, either directly or indirectly observable; and
- Level 3 Unobservable inputs developed using internal estimates and assumptions (there is little or no market data) which reflect those that market participants would use.

As of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016 , respectively, our financial instruments consisted of cash and cash equivalents; including accounts receivable, accounts payable, interest rate swaps, lease guarantee liability, and debt. The fair value of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, and accounts payable approximate carrying value, due to their short-term nature.

The fair value of our interest rate swaps is determined based on valuation models, which utilize quoted interest rate curves to calculate the forward value and then discount the forward values to the present period. The Company measures the fair value using

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broker quotes which are generally based on market observable inputs including yield curves and the value associated with counterparty credit risk. Our interest rate swaps are classified as a Level 2 measurement as these securities are not actively traded in the market, but are observable based on transactions associated with bank loans with similar terms and maturities. See Note 1 and Note 7 for additional information pertaining to interest rates swaps.

The fair value of our lease guarantee liability is determined by calculating the present value of the difference between the estimated rate at which the Company and Bagger Dave's could borrow money in a duration similar to the underlying lease guarantees. Our lease guarantees are classified as a Level 2 measurement as there is no actively traded market for such instruments.

As of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, our total debt was approximately \$113.9 million and \$121.2 million, respectively, which approximated fair value because the applicable interest rates are adjusted frequently based on short-term market rates (Level 2).

There were no transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016, respectively.

The following table presents the fair values for those assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2017:

FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Description	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Asset/(Liability) Total
Interest rate swaps	\$ —	\$ (429,104)	\$ —	\$ (429,104)
Lease guarantee liability	—	(303,006)	—	(303,006)
Total	\$ —	\$ (732,110)	\$ —	\$ (732,110)

The following table presents the fair values for those assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis as of December 25, 2016:

FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Description	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Asset / (Liability) Total
Cash equivalents	\$ —	\$ (1,415,491)	\$ —	\$ (1,415,491)
Interest rate swaps	—	(306,000)	—	(306,000)
Total	\$ —	\$ (1,721,491)	\$ —	\$ (1,721,491)

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15 . ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

The following table summarizes each component of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss ("OCL"):

Year Ended December 31, 2017	
	Interest Rate Swaps
Beginning balance	\$ (934,222)
Gain recorded to other comprehensive income	986,385
Tax expense	(335,371)
Other comprehensive income	651,014
Accumulated OCL	\$ (283,208)

Year Ended December 25, 2016	
	Interest Rate Swaps
Beginning balance	\$ (1,006,667)
Gain recorded to other comprehensive loss	109,764
Tax expense	(37,319)
Other comprehensive income	72,445
Accumulated OCL	\$ (934,222)

16 . SUMMARY QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (unaudited)

	Fiscal Quarters			
	March 26, 2017	June 25, 2017	September 24, 2017	December 31, 2017
Revenue	\$ 44,337,964	\$ 39,934,602	\$ 39,262,940	\$ 41,927,106
Operating profit (loss)	2,366,631	721,263	320,479	1,832,355
Income (loss) before income taxes	817,844	(895,903)	(1,476,397)	268,061
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 795,580	\$ (291,343)	\$ (543,240)	\$ (20,245,148)
Net income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ 35,540	\$ (117,747)	\$ (15,154)	\$ (76,564)
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 831,120</u>	<u>\$ (409,090)</u>	<u>\$ (558,394)</u>	<u>\$ (20,321,712)</u>
Basic earnings per share from:				
Continuing operations	0.03	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.76)
Discontinued operations	—	(0.01)	—	—
Basic net loss per share	<u>0.03</u>	<u>(0.02)</u>	<u>(0.02)</u>	<u>(0.76)</u>
Fully diluted earnings per share from:				
Continuing operations	0.03	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.76)
Discontinued operations	—	(0.01)	—	—
Fully diluted net loss per share	<u>0.03</u>	<u>(0.02)</u>	<u>(0.02)</u>	<u>(0.76)</u>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding				
Basic	26,629,974	26,621,421	26,764,776	26,845,643
Diluted	26,629,974	26,621,421	26,764,776	26,845,643

¹ The results for the quarter ended December 31, 2017 is impacted by a charge of \$3.1 million as a result of the enactment of the Tax Act and the recording of a valuation allowance of \$15.9 million . See Note 9 for for additional details.

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	Fiscal Quarters			
	March 27, 2016	June 26, 2016	September 25, 2016	December 25, 2016
Revenue	\$ 43,143,252	\$ 40,951,181	\$ 41,625,312	\$ 40,801,180
Operating profit (loss)	3,115,981	1,387,085	1,946,629	854,276
Income (loss) before income taxes	1,710,783	(17,202)	519,205	(844,530)
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	1,292,429	234,344	596,709	1,515,566
Net income (loss) from discontinued operations	(862,025)	(416,770)	(1,985,834)	(6,376,900)
Net income (loss)	\$ 430,404	\$ (182,426)	\$ (1,389,125)	\$ (4,861,334)
Basic earnings per share from:				
Continuing operations	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.06
Discontinued operations	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.07)	(0.24)
Basic net loss per share	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.18)
Fully diluted earnings per share from:				
Continuing operations	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.06
Discontinued operations	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.07)	(0.24)
Fully diluted net loss per share	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.18)
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding				
Basic	26,298,034	26,379,065	26,625,615	26,664,409
Diluted	26,298,034	26,379,065	26,625,615	26,664,409

17. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

None.

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

REPORT BY DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC.'S MANAGEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining an effective system of internal control over financial reporting that is designed to produce reliable financial statements presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of internal control. Accordingly, even an effective system of internal control can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation.

Management assessed the Company's system of internal control over financial reporting that is designed to produce reliable financial statements presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as of December 31, 2017 . This assessment was based on criteria for effective internal control over financial reporting described in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework* (2013 Framework) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on this assessment, management believes that, as of December 31, 2017 , Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. maintained an effective system of internal control over financial reporting that is designed to produce reliable financial statements presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles based on those criteria.

This Annual Report does not include an attestation report of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. We were not required to have, nor have we engaged our independent registered public accounting firm to perform an audit of our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission that permit us to provide only management's report in this Annual Report. Management's report was not subject to attestation by the Company's registered public accounting firm pursuant to Section 404(c) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.

/s/ David G. Burke

Dated: March 9, 2018

David G. Burke

Chairman of the Board, President, Chief Executive Officer,
and Principal Executive Officer

/s/ Phyllis Knight

Dated: March 9, 2018

Phyllis Knight

Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, Principal Financial
Officer, and Principal Accounting Officer

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of December 31, 2017 , an evaluation was performed under the supervision of and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, our management, including our principal executive and principal financial and accounting officers, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2017 .

Evaluation of Internal Control and Procedures

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f). There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of internal control. Accordingly, even an effective system of internal control can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation.

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive and principal financial and accounting officers, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017. This evaluation was based on criteria for effective internal control over financial reporting described in Internal Control — Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 Framework). Based on our evaluation under the framework in Internal Control — Integrated Framework, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2017. Refer to the management's report in Item 8 "Consolidated Financial Statements" of this Annual Report.

The Company is not required to have an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As such, this annual report does not include an attestation report of the Company's registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Management's report was not subject to attestation by the Company's registered public accounting firm pursuant to Section 404(c) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the year ended December 31, 2017 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Our process for evaluating controls and procedures is continuous and encompasses constant improvement of the design and effectiveness of established controls and procedures and the remediation of any deficiencies that may be identified during this process.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

Not applicable.

PART III

Certain information required by this Part III is omitted from this report and is incorporated by reference to our Definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held in 2018 (the “Proxy Statement”).

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The following table sets forth information, as of December 31, 2017, with respect to compensation plans (including individual compensation arrangements) under which our equity securities are authorized for issuance, aggregated as follows:

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders ¹	—	N/A	2,270,001
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders ²	180,000	\$ 2.50	N/A

¹ In 2011, our Board of Directors and Stockholders approved the Stock Incentive Plan of 2011 (the “2011 Incentive Plan”) authorizing the grant of equity-based incentives to employees. On July 13, 2017, the Company’s shareholders approved a new stock incentive plan - the Stock Incentive Plan of 2017 (“Stock Incentive Plan”). No further grants will be made under the 2011 Incentive Plan. The Stock Incentive Plan of 2017 authorized a total of 2,500,000 shares for issuance as incentive awards by way of stock options and/or restricted stock.

² On July 31, 2010, the Company granted options for the purchase of 210,000 shares of common stock to the directors of the Company. These options vested ratably over a three-year period and were originally for a term of six years from issuance. On July 28, 2016, the agreement was amended to extend the expiration date of the remaining 180,000 shares to July 31, 2019. The options can be exercised at a price of \$2.50 per share.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) (1) Financial Statements. The following financial statements and reports of independent registered public accounting firms of Diversified Restaurant Holdings and its subsidiaries are filed as part of this report:

- Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm — BDO USA, LLP
- Report by Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.'s Management on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
- Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016
- Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016
- Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss for the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016
- Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Deficit) for the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2017, and December 25, 2016
- Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2017 and December 25, 2016
- Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

The consolidated financial statements, the notes to the consolidated financial statements, and the report of independent registered public accounting firm listed above are contained in Item 8 of this report.

(2) Financial Statement Schedules

Not applicable

(b) Index to Exhibits required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K:

The Exhibit Index following the Signatures Page hereto is incorporated by reference under this item.

ITEM 16. SUMMARY

None.

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In accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

/s/ David G. Burke _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
David G. Burke
President, Chief Executive Officer, Director (Principal Executive Officer)

/s/ Phyllis A. Knight _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
Phyllis A. Knight
Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

/s/ Michael T. Ansley _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
Michael T. Ansley
Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors

/s/ Jay Alan Dusenberry _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
Jay Alan Dusenberry
Director

/s/ David Ligotti _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
David Ligotti
Director

/s/ Gregory J. Stevens _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
Gregory J. Stevens
Director

/s/ Joseph M. Nowicki _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
Joseph M. Nowicki
Director

/s/ Philip Friedman _____ Dated: March 9, 2018
Philip Friedman
Director

EXHIBIT NO.	EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION
3.1	Certificate of Incorporation (filed as an exhibit to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 10, 2007, and incorporated herein by this reference)
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws (filed as an exhibit to the Company's Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 29, 2012, and incorporated herein by this reference)
3.3	First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Bylaws (filed as an exhibit to the Company's Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 31, 2012, and incorporated herein by this reference)
3.4	Second Amendment to the Amended and Restated Bylaws (filed as an exhibit to the Company's Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 29, 2016, and incorporated herein by this reference)
4.1	Specimen Stock Certificate (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of our registration statement on Form SB-2 (SEC File Number 333-145316) filed on August 10, 2007)
4.2	Stock Incentive Plan of 2017 (filed as an exhibit to the Company's S-8, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 13, 2017, and incorporated herein by reference) *
4.3	Form of Restricted Stock Award Agreement for restricted stock granted under the Stock Incentive Plan of 2017 (filed as an exhibit to the Company's S-8, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 13, 2017, and incorporated herein by reference) *
10.1	Buffalo Wild Wings Area Development Agreement dated July 18, 2003, by and between Buffalo Wild Wings International, Inc. and MCA Enterprises, Inc. (subsequently assigned to AMC Wings, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of our Form 10-Q filed November 12, 2010)
10.2	Amendment to Buffalo Wild Wings Area Development Agreement dated December 27, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 of our Form 10-Q filed November 12, 2010)
10.3	Amendment to Buffalo Wild Wings Area Development Agreement dated March 20, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 of our Form 10-Q filed November 12, 2010)
10.4	Amendment to Buffalo Wild Wings Area Development Agreement dated November 5, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 of our Form 10-Q filed November 12, 2010)
10.5	Form of Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed August 5, 2010)*
10.6	Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. Performance Bonus Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed March 11, 2013)*
10.7	2013 Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. Short-Term Incentive Program (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of our Form 8-K filed March 11, 2013)*
10.8	\$77.0M Senior Secured Credit Facility with RBS Citizens, N.A., as administrative agent, dated December 16, 2014 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 of our Form 10-K, filed March 13, 2015)
10.9	Amendment to Area Development Agreement, dated August 13, 2015 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed August 19, 2015)
10.10	Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated June 29, 2015 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed July 1, 2015)
10.11	Employment Agreement between Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. and David G. Burke, dated May 19, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed May 24, 2016) *

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10.12	Form of Second Amendment to the Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. Stock Option Agreement of 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed July 29, 2016)
10.13	Employment Agreement between Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. and Phyllis A. Knight, dated October 20, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed October 24, 2016) *
10.14	Transitional Services Agreement, dated as of December 23, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K filed December 29, 2016)
10.15	Amendment No. 4 to Credit Agreement and Limited Consent, dated as of December 23, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of our Form 8-K filed December 29, 2016)
10.16	Amendment No. 6 to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 30, 2017 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of our Form 8-K, filed July 7, 2017)
21.0	Subsidiaries of Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.
23	Consent of BDO USA, LLP
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)
32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350
32.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Document
*	Management contract or compensatory plan

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC. LEGAL STRUCTURE

Legal Entity	State Organized	Purpose of Company	Ownership Structure
Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.	Nevada	Parent Company	Public Entity: SAUC (NASDAQ) (Parent Company)
AMC Group, Inc.	Michigan	Management Company	Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.
AMC Real Estate, Inc.	Michigan	Management Company	Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.
AMC Wings, Inc. d/b/a Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar	Michigan	Owns all BWW restaurants	Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.

Exhibit 23

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Nos.333-175120 and 333-219273) of Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. of our report dated March 9, 2018 , relating to the consolidated financial statements which appear in this Form 10-K.

/ s/ BDO USA, LLP
Troy, Michigan
March 9, 2018

Exhibit 31.1

RULE 13a-14(a) CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I, David G. Burke, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 of Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. (the "Company");
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13-a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financing reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonable likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: March 9, 2018

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ David G. Burke
David G. Burke
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

Exhibit 31.2

RULE 13a-14(a) CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

I, Phyllis A. Knight, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 of Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. (the "Company");
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13-a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financing reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonable likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: March 9, 2018

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ Phyllis A. Knight

Phyllis A. Knight
Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

Exhibit 32.1

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the accompanying Annual Report on Form 10-K ("Annual Report") of Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc. (the "Company") for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, I, David G. Burke, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, hereby certify pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that:

1. The Annual Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
2. The information contained in the Annual Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: March 9, 2018

DIVERSIFIED RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ David G. Burke
David G. Burke
President, and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

