

Allegiant Travel CO  
Form DEF 14A  
April 30, 2012  
SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

Filed by the Registrant  x  
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  o

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement  Confidential, for Use of the Commission only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-12

ALLEGIANT TRAVEL COMPANY  
(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
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- (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
- (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
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- o Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
  - o Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 240.0-11 and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.
    - (1) Amount previously paid:
    - (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
    - (3) Filing Party:
    - (4) Date Filed:
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ALLEGIANT TRAVEL COMPANY

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To the Stockholders of Allegiant Travel Company:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of Stockholders of Allegiant Travel Company (the "Company") will be held at our company headquarters at 8360 S. Durango Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. local time, for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect Directors;
- (2) To ratify the selection by the audit committee of our board of directors of the firm of Ernst & Young, LLP as our independent registered public accountants for the year ending December 31, 2012; and
- (3) To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Holders of the Common Stock of record at the close of business on April 13, 2012 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting. A list of stockholders will be available at the annual meeting.

It is important that your shares be represented at the annual meeting to ensure the presence of a quorum. Whether or not you expect to be present in person at the meeting, please vote your shares by signing and dating the accompanying proxy and returning it promptly in the enclosed postage paid reply envelope. This will assist us in preparing for the meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Jude I. Bricker

Jude I. Bricker,  
Secretary

May 9, 2012  
Las Vegas, Nevada

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ALLEGIANT TRAVEL COMPANY  
8360 S. Durango Drive  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89113  
(702) 851-7300

PROXY STATEMENT

FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held on June 5, 2012

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of our board of directors to be voted at the annual meeting of our stockholders to be held on June 5, 2012, and any adjournment or adjournments thereof, for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Our annual meeting of stockholders will be held at our company headquarters at 8360 S. Durango Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113, on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. local time. This proxy statement and accompanying form of proxy will be first sent or given to our stockholders on or about May 9, 2012. Our annual report for the year ended December 31, 2011, is being sent to each stockholder of record along with this proxy statement.

ABOUT THE MEETING

What is the purpose of the annual meeting?

At our annual meeting, our stockholders will act upon the matters outlined in the accompanying notice of meeting, including the election of directors and ratification of our independent registered public accountants. In addition, our management will report on our performance during the 2011 year and respond to questions from stockholders.

Who is entitled to vote?

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the record date, April 13, 2012, are entitled to receive notice of the annual meeting and to vote the shares of our common stock that they held on that date at the meeting, or any postponement or adjournment of the meeting. Each outstanding share entitles its holder to cast one vote on each matter to be voted upon.

Who can attend the meeting?

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

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

What constitutes a quorum?

The presence at the meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock outstanding on the record date will constitute a quorum, permitting the meeting to conduct its business. As of the record date, we had 19,186,764 shares of common stock outstanding. Proxies received but marked as abstentions and broker non-votes will be included in the calculation of the number of shares considered to be present at the meeting.

How do I vote?

To vote you must complete and return a written proxy card.

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

Can I change my vote after I return my proxy card?

Yes. Even after you have voted by written proxy card, you may change your vote at any time before the proxy is exercised by filing with our secretary either a written notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date. The powers of the proxy holders will be suspended if you attend the meeting in person and so request, although attendance at the meeting will not by itself revoke a previously granted proxy. All written notices of revocation or other communications with respect to revocation of proxies should be addressed as follows: Allegiant Travel Company, 8360 S. Durango Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113, Attention Jude Bricker, Secretary.

What are the recommendations of our board of directors?

Unless you give other instructions when voting, the persons named as proxy holders on the proxy card will vote in accordance with the recommendations of our board of directors. Our board recommends a vote FOR election of the nominated slate of directors and FOR the ratification of Ernst & Young, LLP as our independent registered public accountants.

With respect to any other matter that properly comes before the meeting, the proxy holders will vote as recommended by our board of directors or, if no recommendation is given, in their own discretion.

What vote is required to approve each item?

Election of Directors. The affirmative vote of a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting is required for the election of directors. A properly executed proxy marked “WITHHOLD AUTHORITY” with respect to the election of one or more directors will not be voted with respect to the director or directors indicated, although it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum.

Abstentions are included in the shares present at the meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. Broker non-votes (when shares are represented at the meeting by a proxy specifically conferring only limited authority to vote on certain matters and no authority to vote on other matters) are also included in the determination of the number of shares represented at the meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. Because directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast, votes to “WITHHOLD AUTHORITY” with respect to one or more nominees and any abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted and will not have an effect on the outcome of the election.

**Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accountants and Other Items.** To approve the ratification of our independent registered public accountants and for each other item, the resolution will be approved if the number of votes cast in favor of the resolution exceeds the number of votes cast in opposition of the resolution. Abstentions and broker non-votes are included in the number of shares present or represented for purposes of quorum, but are not considered as shares voting or as votes cast with respect to any matter presented at the annual meeting. As a result, abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on the proposal to ratify the appointment of our independent registered public accountants.

Our management knows of no matter to be brought before the meeting other than the election of directors and ratification of independent registered public accountants. If, however, any other matters properly come before the meeting, it is intended that the proxies will be voted in accordance with the judgment of the person or persons voting such proxies.

How will proxies be solicited?

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

Is there electronic access to the proxy materials and annual report?

Yes. This proxy statement and our annual report are available on our web site, [www.allegianttravel.com](http://www.allegianttravel.com).

## STOCK OWNERSHIP

## Security Ownership of Management and Certain Beneficial Owners

The following table shows information known to us with respect to beneficial ownership of our common stock as of April 13, 2012, by (A) each director, (B) each of the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table beginning on page 24, (C) all executive officers and directors as a group and (D) each person known by us to be a beneficial owner of more than 5% of our outstanding common stock.

Each stockholder's percentage ownership in the following table is based on 19,186,764 shares of common stock outstanding as of April 13, 2012 and treating as outstanding all options held by that stockholder and exercisable within 60 days of April 13, 2012.

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

| Name of Beneficial Owner  | Shares Beneficially Owned |            |
|---|---------------------------|------------|
|   | Number                    | Percentage |
| <b>5% Stockholders:</b>   |                           |            |
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. (1)                                     | 3,907,908                 | 20.3%      |
| T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. (2)                                | 2,010,965                 | 10.5%      |
| Franklin Advisors, Inc. (3)                                       | 1,383,138                 | 7.2%       |
| Times Square Capital Management, LLC (4)                          | 1,297,400                 | 6.8%       |
| BlackRock, Inc. (5)   | 1,055,200                 | 5.5%       |
| <b>Executive Officers and Directors:</b>                          |                           |            |
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. (1)                                     | 3,907,908                 | 20.3%      |
| Montie Brewer (6)   | 6,000                     | *          |
| Gary Ellmer (7)   | 3,150                     | *          |
| Timothy P. Flynn (8)  | 4,000                     | *          |
| Charles W. Pollard (9)  | 4,000                     | *          |
| John Redmond (10)   | 28,750                    | *          |
| Scott Allard (11)   | 14,689                    | *          |
| Kris B. Bauer (12)  | 16,690                    | *          |
| Andrew C. Levy (13)   | 197,533                   | 1.0%       |
| Scott D. Sheldon (14)   | 36,164                    | *          |
| All executive officers and directors as a group (11 persons) (15) | 4,234,455                 | 21.9%      |

\* Represents ownership of less than one percent.

- (1) The address of Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., is 8360 S. Durango Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113. These shares include 146,200 shares of common stock held by two entities controlled by Mr. Gallagher. The shares also include 12,619 shares of restricted stock not yet vested and options to purchase 43,000 shares which are presently exercisable.

- (2) Information is based on a Schedule 13G/Amendment #2 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 10, 2012, by T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. and T. Rowe Price New Horizons Fund, Inc. The Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 2 reports that as of December 31, 2011, T. Rowe Price New Horizons Fund, Inc. (an investment fund) has sole voting power over 1,049,845 shares and T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. (an investment adviser) has sole voting power over 336,420 shares and sole dispositive power over 2,010,965 shares. The address of these beneficial owners is 100 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.
- (3) Information is based on a Schedule 13F filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 8, 2012, by Franklin Resources, Inc. ("FRI"). The shares reported are beneficially owned by investment companies or other managed accounts that are investment management clients of FRI or its affiliated companies. Such affiliated companies have investment discretion over the shares reported and sole voting authority over 1,294,038 shares reported. Under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, FRI may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of securities held by persons for whom FRI or its affiliates provide investment management services. Other than Franklin Advisers, Inc. which beneficially owns 1,197,558 of the shares reported, none of these entities owns more than 5% of our outstanding common stock. The address of this beneficial owner is One Franklin Parkway, San Mateo, California 94403.
- (4) Information is based on a Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 1 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 8, 2012, by TimesSquare Capital Management, LLC as an investment adviser. The Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 1 reports that TimesSquare Capital Management, LLC has sole voting power over 1,098,500 shares and sole dispositive power over 1,297,400 shares as of December 31, 2011. The address of this beneficial owner is 1177 Avenue of the Americas, 39th Floor, New York, New York 10036.
- (5) Information is based on a Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 2 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 13, 2012, by BlackRock, Inc. The Schedule 13G/Amendment No. 2 reports that as of December 30, 2011, BlackRock, Inc. has sole voting and dispositive power over the shares indicated which are owned by various subsidiaries of BlackRock, Inc. with no subsidiary owning more than 5% of our outstanding common stock. The address of this beneficial owner is 40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022.
- (6) Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
- (7) Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
- (8) Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
- (9) Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
- (10) Includes 1,000 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
- (11) Includes 12,238 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
- (12) Includes 12,238 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement.
- (13) Includes 24,063 shares of restricted stock not yet vested and options to purchase 108,000 shares which are presently exercisable. Also includes 17,073 shares which Mr. Levy could acquire upon exercise of his currently vested stock appreciation rights based on the closing market price per share on April 13, 2012 (\$58.69), and the strike price of such SARs (\$38.65). The actual number of shares that may be acquired upon the exercise of these SARs will vary depending on the market price of our common stock at the time of exercise.



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(14) Includes 8,904 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement and options to purchase 23,333 shares which are presently exercisable.

(15) See footnotes 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. Also includes 15,571 shares of restricted stock not yet vested as of the date of this proxy statement owned by Michael Reichartz, an executive officer not included in the named executive officers in this proxy statement. Excludes shares owned by Jude Bricker who was elected as an executive officer after the date as of which our beneficial ownership is shown.

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## Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

The following table provides information regarding options, warrants and other rights to acquire equity securities under our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2011:

|  | Number of Securities to be Issued upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a) | Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights | Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans (b) |
|--|---|---|--|
| Equity compensation plans approved by security holders     | 493,433   | \$ 34.34  | 1,499,557  |
| Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders | None  | N/A   | None   |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>493,433</b>  | <b>\$ 34.34</b>   | <b>1,499,557</b>   |

(a) The shares shown as being issuable under equity compensation plans approved by our security holders include stock appreciation rights issued with respect to 75,000 shares which are to be settled in stock upon exercise. The actual number of shares that may be acquired upon the exercise of these SARs will vary depending on the market price of our common stock at the time of exercise. The shares shown as being issuable under equity compensation plans approved by our security holders excludes restricted stock awards issued. In addition to the above, there are 107,223 shares of nonvested restricted stock as of December 31, 2011.

(b) The shares shown as remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans are reduced for outstanding cash-settled stock appreciation rights ("SARs"). Although these outstanding cash-settled SARs will not result in the issuance of shares, the number of outstanding cash-settled SARs reduce the number of shares available for other awards under our Long-Term Incentive Plan.

## Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

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

We have recently determined that certain of our executive officers failed to report the disposition of shares of restricted stock resulting from the cancellation of shares to satisfy tax withholding obligations upon the vesting of restricted stock. Form 4's should have been filed to report these effective repurchase of shares for Messrs. Gallagher (February 2011 and February 2012), Levy (October 2010, February 2011, October 2011 and February 2012), Sheldon (February 2011, May 2011 and February 2012), Bauer (May 2011) and Allard (March 2012). These Form 4's have now been filed.

Based solely on our review of the copies of such forms received by us with respect to transactions during 2011, or written representations from certain reporting persons, we believe that all filing requirements applicable to our directors, executive officers and persons who own more than 10% of our equity securities have been complied with other than as indicated above.



PROPOSAL NO. 1

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

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

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to our board of directors as of April 13, 2012:

| Name                      | Age | Position                                       | Director Since (1) |
|---------------------------|-----|--|--------------------|
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. | 62  | Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board | 2001               |
| Montie Brewer (2)(3)      | 54  | Director                                       | 2009               |
| Gary Ellmer (3)(4)        | 58  | Director                                       | 2008               |
| Timothy P. Flynn (2)(3)   | 61  | Director                                       | 2006               |
| Charles Pollard (4)       | 54  | Director                                       | 2009               |
| John Redmond (2)(4)       | 53  | Director                                       | 2007               |

(1) Each director serves for a one-year term with all directors being elected at each stockholders' meeting.

(2) Member of the Compensation Committee

(3) Member of the Nominating Committee

(4) Member of the Audit Committee

Nominees for Election as Directors

All of our directors are to be elected at this annual meeting. The nominating committee of our board of directors has recommended, and our board of directors has approved, the nomination of all existing board members for reelection for a one-year term expiring in 2013. Each elected director will hold office until his term expires and until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

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

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

Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. has been actively involved in the management of our company since he became our majority owner and joined our board of directors in 2001. He has served as our chief executive officer since 2003 and was designated Chairman of the Board in 2006. Prior to his involvement with Allegiant, Mr. Gallagher devoted his time to his investment activities, including companies which he founded. One of these companies was Mpower Communications Corp., a telecommunications company, for which he served as acting chief executive officer from 1997 to 1999 and as chairman of the board from its inception in 1996 until 2002. Mr. Gallagher was one of the founders of ValuJet Airlines, Inc. (the predecessor of AirTran Holdings, Inc.) and served as an officer and director of ValuJet from its inception in 1993 until 1997. From 1983 until 1992, Mr. Gallagher was a principal owner and executive of WestAir, a commuter airline.

Montie R. Brewer was elected to our board in October 2009. Mr. Brewer was elected to the board mid-term at the recommendation of our chief executive officer. Mr. Brewer served in senior management roles for Air Canada from 2002 until April 2009, serving as its president and chief executive officer from December 2004 until April 2009. Air Canada filed for bankruptcy protection in 2003. Mr. Brewer served on the board of directors of Air Canada from 2002 until April 2010. Prior to Air Canada, Mr. Brewer served as senior vice president-planning for United Airlines and previously worked at Northwest Airlines, Republic Airlines, Braniff and TransWorld Airlines, beginning his employment in the airline industry in 1981. Mr. Brewer served as an executive officer of United Airlines from 1988 until 2002. United Airlines filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in 2002. Mr. Brewer has also served as a director of Aer Lingus, an airline, since January 2010.

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

Gary Ellmer was elected to our board in May 2008. Mr. Ellmer served in senior management positions for ATA Airlines from September 2006 until February 2008, serving as chief operating officer from September 2007 until February 2008. ATA filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in April 2008. From April 2006 until August 2006, Mr. Ellmer served as vice president, business development for American Eagle Airlines and served as president and chief operating officer of Executive Airlines/American Eagle Caribbean from 2002 until 2006. From 1998 until 2002, he served in various officer positions for American Eagle Airlines, Business Express Airlines and WestAir Commuter Airlines.

Mr. Ellmer's service as chief operating officer of three airlines and more than 26 years of experience in the airline industry provide significant experience with regard to airline operations to support a conclusion that he should continue to serve on our board.

Timothy P. Flynn was elected to our board in 2006. Since 1992, Mr. Flynn has devoted his time to his private investments. Mr. Flynn was one of the founders of ValuJet Airlines, Inc. and served as a director from its inception in 1992 until 1997. From 1982 until 1992, he served as an executive officer and director of WestAir, a commuter airline, which he founded with Mr. Gallagher in 1982. From 1979 to 1982, he served as an executive officer of Pacific Express Holding, Inc., the parent company of WestAir Commuter Airlines, Inc.

Mr. Flynn is well suited to serve as a director due to his prior experience as an executive officer of WestAir and his role as a founder of ValuJet. In addition, he has served as a director of ours for six years, providing valuable insight to us through our initial public offering and substantial growth since that time.

Charles W. Pollard was elected to our board in June 2009. Mr. Pollard served in various executive positions for Omni Air International from 1997 until July 2009, including as its president and chief executive officer from January 2007 until September 2008. Prior to his employment with Omni Air International, Mr. Pollard served in various executive positions for World Airways from 1987 until 1997, including as president and chief executive officer from 1993 to 1997. Mr. Pollard began his career as an attorney in the corporate practice group of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP from 1983 to 1987. Mr. Pollard has also served as a director of Air Partner, PLC since June 2009, as a director of Aircastle Limited since July 2010 and as a director of AeroMechanical Services, Ltd. since June 2011.

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

John Redmond was elected to our board in October 2007. Since 2007, Mr. Redmond has devoted his time to his private investments. Mr. Redmond served as president and chief executive officer of MGM Grand Resorts, LLC and a director of its parent company, MGM Mirage, from 2001 until August 2007. Prior to that, he served as co-chief executive officer and a director of MGM Grand, Inc. from December 1999 to March 2001. He was president and chief operating officer of Primm Valley Resorts from March 1999 to December 1999 and senior vice president of MGM Grand Development, Inc. from August 1996 to February 1999. He served as vice-chairman of MGM Grand Detroit, LLC from 1998 to 2000 and chairman from 2000 until August 2007. Prior to 1996, Mr. Redmond was senior vice president and chief financial officer of Caesars Palace and Sheraton Desert Inn, having served in various other senior operational and development positions with Caesars World, Inc. Mr. Redmond has served as a director of Vail Resorts, Inc. since March 2008, of Tropicana Las Vegas Hotel and Casino, Inc. since July 2009 and of Echo Entertainment Group Limited since September 2011.

Mr. Redmond's prior experience as chief executive officer of MGM entities and extensive prior experience with other resorts provide a travel industry perspective not shared by the other members of our board. With the importance of ancillary revenue to our profitability and with the sale of hotel rooms being the largest individual component of our third party ancillary revenue, Mr. Redmond's input is particularly valuable to our board.

Timothy Flynn is the uncle of Scott Sheldon, our chief financial officer. Other than that, none of our current directors is related to any other director or to any executive officer of ours.

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

## Director Independence

Our board of directors has determined that all of our directors other than Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., are independent under the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market. As Mr. Gallagher does not serve on any of the board's committees, all committee members are independent under the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market.

## Committees of the Board of Directors

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

### Audit Committee

The audit committee is currently comprised of Messrs. Ellmer, Pollard and Redmond, each of whom is independent under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards. John Redmond has been identified as the audit committee financial expert. Our audit committee met five times during the 2011 year.

Our board of directors has adopted a charter for the audit committee setting forth the structure, powers and responsibilities of the audit committee. A copy of the audit committee charter can be found on our website at [www.allegianttravel.com](http://www.allegianttravel.com) by clicking on "About Allegiant", then "Investor Relations", then "Corporate Governance" and then "Committee Charters". Pursuant to the charter, the audit committee will be comprised of at least three members appointed by the board of directors, each of whom shall satisfy the membership requirements of independence, financial literacy or accounting or financial expertise as prescribed by applicable rules.

The audit committee provides assistance to the board of directors in fulfilling its legal and fiduciary obligations in matters involving our accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal control and legal compliance functions. The audit committee also oversees the audit efforts of our independent registered public accounting firm and takes those actions as it deems necessary to satisfy itself that the auditors are independent of management.

### Compensation Committee

The compensation committee is comprised of Messrs. Brewer, Flynn and Redmond, each of whom is a non-employee director and is independent under the Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards. Our compensation committee formally met three times during 2011.

Our board of directors has adopted a charter for the compensation committee setting forth the structure, powers and responsibilities of the compensation committee. A copy of the charter of the compensation committee can be found on our website at [www.allegianttravel.com](http://www.allegianttravel.com) by clicking on "About Allegiant", then "Investor Relations", then "Corporate Governance" and then "Committee Charters."

The compensation committee determines our compensation policies and forms of compensation provided to our directors and officers. The compensation committee also reviews and determines bonuses for our officers and certain other employees. In addition, the compensation committee reviews and determines stock-based compensation for our directors, officers, employees and consultants and administers our long-term incentive plan. Our chief executive officer and chairman of the board, Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., provides input to the compensation committee in making compensation decisions for our other executive officers.

#### Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

None of the members of the compensation committee ever served as officers or employees of our company. No interlocking relationship existed during the 2011 year between any executive officer of ours and the board of directors or compensation committee of another company.

#### Nominating Committee

The nominating committee is authorized and empowered to submit to the entire board of directors for its approval the committee's recommendations for nominees to the board of directors. The nominating committee consists of Messrs. Brewer, Ellmer and Flynn. All of the current members of our nominating committee are independent under the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market. Our nominating committee met one time during the 2011 year.

The responsibilities of the nominating committee are to identify individuals qualified to become board members, recommend director nominees to the board of directors prior to each annual meeting of stockholders and recommend nominees for any committee of the board. A copy of the charter of the nominating committee can be found on our website at [www.allegianttravel.com](http://www.allegianttravel.com) by clicking on "About Allegiant", then "Investor Relations", then "Corporate Governance" and then "Committee Charters".

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

The nominating committee's charter provides general qualifications nominees should meet. These qualifications include the following:

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



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

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

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

In addition, the nominating committee will consider for inclusion in the board's annual slate of director nominees candidates recommended by significant, long-term stockholders. A significant long-term stockholder is a stockholder, or group of stockholders, that beneficially owned more than 5% of our voting stock for at least two years as of the date the recommendation was made and at the record date for the stockholder meeting. In order for such a nominee to be considered for inclusion with the board's slate, the nominating stockholder shall submit a timely nomination notice in accordance with the procedures above. The nominating stockholder should expressly indicate in the notice that such stockholder desires that the board and nominating committee consider the stockholder's nominee for inclusion with the board's slate of nominees for the meeting. The nominating stockholder and stockholder's nominee should undertake to provide, or consent to our obtaining, all other information the board and nominating committee request in connection with their evaluation of the nominee.

A stockholder nominee submitted for inclusion in the board's slate of nominees should meet the criteria for a director described above. In addition, in evaluating stockholder nominees for inclusion with the board's slate of nominees, the board and nominating committee may consider all information relevant in their business judgment to the decision of whether to nominate a particular candidate for a particular board seat, taking into account the then-current composition of our board. The nominating committee would expect to use the same procedures to evaluate nominees for director whether recommended by a stockholder or recommended by another source. To date, we have not received any board nominee recommendations from stockholders.

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

The nominating committee continues to evaluate its policies and procedures regarding stockholder nominations in light of changing industry practices and regulation. The policies and procedures described above are subject to change.

#### Meetings of our Board of Directors

Our board of directors met five times during the 2011 year. Each of our incumbent directors attended at least 75% of the total of all board and committee meetings he was entitled to attend during the 2011 year. It is our policy to encourage board members to attend each annual meeting of stockholders so that the board is adequately represented. One of our directors attended our annual stockholders' meeting in 2011.

Independent members of our board may be contacted by letter directed to the named member in care of Allegiant Travel Company, Corporate Secretary, 8360 S. Durango Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113. The sealed envelope will be sent on to the addressee by our corporate secretary.

#### Board Leadership Structure

We believe our chief executive officer, Maurice Gallagher, Jr., is best suited to serve as chairman of the board as he is our largest shareholder, and he has led the development and implementation of our business strategy since he acquired a majority interest in the Company in 2001. As chairman and chief executive officer, Mr. Gallagher provides clear direction for both the operations of our Company and board deliberations, and as a result of his stock ownership position and his service without any base compensation, his interests are fully aligned with those of our stockholders. Although we do not have a lead independent director, the independence and extensive relevant industry experience of all of our other directors provide balance and an appropriate check on the governance of our Company. The independent directors meet outside the presence of Mr. Gallagher on a quarterly basis with the chairmanship of the meeting rotating among the independent directors. Further, it is important to note that all of our directors are elected annually, the board receives updates on our operating strategies from the chief executive officer and other members of senior management at each quarterly board meeting and financial information is provided to directors on a monthly basis.

#### Risk Oversight

While risk management is the primary responsibility of our management team, our board of directors is regularly involved in the oversight of the most material risks faced by us. Of the six members on the board, five are independent directors, and each of these five has extensive experience in managing companies in the travel industry. In particular, four of the independent directors have each served more than ten years in executive positions with other airlines. The fifth independent director has served more than ten years in executive positions in the resort and casino industry. Bringing this exceptional depth of experience, the board is involved with all critical decisions regarding strategic direction, choice of aircraft, significant aircraft purchase transactions, finance transactions, fuel hedging opportunities, any merger and acquisition opportunities and any other material Company decisions outside of the ordinary course of our operations.



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

Our board committees, which are comprised solely of independent directors, also participate in risk oversight.

The audit committee oversees risks related to our financial reporting and internal controls with quarterly meetings, including private sessions with our outside auditing firm, our internal audit personnel and management responsible for financial accounting. Audit committee approval is also required for any related party transactions.

Our board, and the compensation committee in particular, manages the risk inherent in our compensation programs. Our board believes there is little risk associated with our compensation programs as management's interests are aligned with those of our stockholders since the bonus plan is based on Company profitability, the value of option and stock appreciation right grants is based on stock price appreciation and the vesting schedule associated with stock grants incentivize long-term growth and not short-term risk taking. Further, our stockholders have not suffered any dilution from equity grants as the number of shares repurchased by us under stock repurchase plans has exceeded the number of shares subject to equity grants.

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

#### Code of Ethics

We have adopted a Corporate Code of Conduct and Ethics (the "Code of Ethics") that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, as well as to other directors, officers and employees of ours. The Code of Ethics is posted on our website ([www.allegianttravel.com](http://www.allegianttravel.com)) and is available in print free of charge to any shareholder who requests a copy. Interested parties may address a written request for a printed copy of the Code of Ethics to our outside counsel: Robert B. Goldberg, Ellis Funk, P.C., 3490 Piedmont Road, Suite 400, Atlanta, Georgia 30305. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement regarding any amendment to, or a waiver of, a provision of the Code of Ethics for our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller or persons performing similar functions by posting such information on our website.

## BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

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

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

In connection with the preparation and filing of our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011:

- (1) The audit committee reviewed and discussed our audited financial statements with management. Management has represented to the audit committee that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- (2) The audit committee discussed with Ernst & Young, LLP, our independent auditors, the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 as amended (AICPA, Professional Standards Vol. 1. AU Section 380), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3200T.
- (3) The audit committee received the written disclosures and the letter from Ernst & Young, LLP required by the applicable requirement of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountants' communications with the audit committee concerning independence and has discussed with Ernst & Young, LLP the independence of that firm as our independent auditors. All audit and non-audit services provided by Ernst & Young, LLP were reviewed by the audit committee. The audit committee has considered whether the provision of non-audit services is compatible with maintaining the auditors' independence.
- (4) Based on the audit committee's review and discussions referred to above, the audit committee recommended to our board of directors that our audited financial statements be included in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Gary Ellmer Charles W. John  
Pollard Redmond

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

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Our named executive officers and their respective ages as of April 30, 2012, are as follows:

| Name                      | Age | Position  |
|---------------------------|-----|---|
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. | 62  | Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board |
| Andrew C. Levy            | 42  | President   |
| Scott Sheldon             | 34  | Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer    |
| Scott M. Allard           | 44  | Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer  |
| Kris B. Bauer             | 48  | Senior Vice President, Operations                 |
| Michael Reichartz         | 42  | Senior Vice President, Marketing                  |
| Jude I. Bricker           | 38  | Senior Vice President, Planning                   |

Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. - as a director, biographical information on Mr. Gallagher is located above.

Andrew C. Levy has served as an officer of Allegiant since 2001 and has served as our president since October 2009. He also served as our chief financial officer from October 2007 until May 2010. From 1998 to 2001, Mr. Levy held various management positions at Mpower Communications. From 1996 to 1998, Mr. Levy worked on airline advisory and transactional work as a vice president with Savoy Capital, an investment company focused on the aviation sector. From 1994 to 1996, Mr. Levy held various positions with ValuJet Airlines.

Scott Sheldon has served as our chief financial officer since May 2010, having served as our principal accounting officer from October 2007 until May 2010. Prior to that, Mr. Sheldon served as our director of accounting from May 2005 and as our accounting manager from 2004 until May 2005. From 2001 until January 2004, Mr. Sheldon worked as a certified public accountant for the Perry-Smith, LLP regional public accounting firm in Sacramento, California.

Scott M. Allard was hired as our senior vice president, chief information officer in March 2011. Mr. Allard worked as an independent consultant from July 2009 until December 2010, primarily for TheLadders.com (an Internet job search board) and Register.com (an Internet registrar) before beginning a consulting role for us. Mr. Allard served as vice president, chief information officer, of Spirit Airlines from February 2006 until June 2009. Previously, he served as vice president, technology of Travelworm, an online travel company, from 2004 until 2006. Prior to that, he held positions as application product manager for American Express and director of development for Priceline.com.

Kris B. Bauer was hired as our senior vice president, operations in May 2010. From 1996 until May 2010, Mr. Bauer worked for Northwest Airlines and its successor Delta Airlines, serving as senior vice president of technical operations from November 2004 until May 2010. Mr. Bauer was senior vice president of technical operations for Northwest Airlines when it filed for bankruptcy protection in September 2005. Mr. Bauer's previous positions for Northwest Airlines included service as vice president, base operations and managing director, finance and planning. Prior to joining Northwest Airlines, Mr. Bauer held positions with United Airlines and The Boeing Company.

Michael Reichartz was hired as our senior vice president, marketing in May 2011. Mr. Reichartz was employed by Expedia from 2000 until April 2011 serving as its vice president – lodging, North America. Prior to that, Mr. Reichartz was one of the original employees at Travelscape, an on-line travel agency which was acquired by Expedia in 2000.

Jude I. Bricker was promoted to senior vice president, planning on April 24, 2012, having served as vice president, corporate finance from April 2010 until April 2012 and in other positions for us since he joined Allegiant in May 2006. From August 2004 until May 2006, Mr. Bricker was employed by American Airlines. Mr. Bricker served in the U.S. Marines from 1996 to 2002.

Scott Sheldon is the nephew of our board member, Timothy Flynn. None of our other executive officers is related to any other executive officer or to any of our directors. Our executive officers are elected annually by our board of directors and serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

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## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

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

Our compensation committee is responsible for establishing and implementing our compensation philosophy. We seek to ensure that the total compensation paid to our executive officers is fair, reasonable and competitive. Our compensation committee is appointed by our board of directors. In 2011, our compensation committee determined the compensation for our chief executive officer, chief financial officer and for all of our other executive officers.

### Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

The primary objectives of the compensation committee of our board of directors with respect to executive compensation are to retain the executive team that has been in place for several years, to attract additional talented people to become employed, to provide annual cash incentives upon achievement of measurable corporate performance objectives, and to assure executives' incentives are aligned with stockholder value creation. To achieve these objectives, the compensation committee maintains compensation plans that tie a significant portion of executives' total compensation to our financial performance (including our operating margin). Overall, the total compensation opportunity is intended to create an executive compensation program: (i) providing for base compensation at reasonable levels, and (ii) rewarding our named executive officers for profitable performance and increased share value.

Our chief executive officer, Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., has a substantial equity position. Historically, he has chosen to serve without any base salary whatsoever and expects to continue to serve without base salary into the future. The compensation committee has decided to include Mr. Gallagher in the allocation of the cash bonus pool in previous years and also grant him stock-based awards to reward him for our company's industry-leading profit margins in the face of extraordinarily volatile fuel costs and the recent economic downturn, factors which have resulted in substantial losses by other companies in the airline industry. For 2011, Mr. Gallagher elected to forego any cash bonus for the year. Whether Mr. Gallagher will participate in future cash bonuses and equity grants will be determined in the discretion of the compensation committee from year to year and will depend, among other factors, on our profitability in relation to our expectations.

Although we do not benchmark total compensation or any material element of compensation against any other particular company or group of companies, we do consider executive compensation and operating margin levels at other airlines and on-line travel agencies in gauging the reasonableness of each element of the compensation package for our executive officers. In particular, in determining cash bonus allocations and equity grants, we compare our executive compensation against averages of other airlines and on-line travel agencies in base salary levels, cash bonus amounts, cash bonus as a percentage of base salary, value of equity awards and total compensation in dollar amounts and in relation to the operating margin achieved by each company. As we are focused on low costs as a company, our philosophy is to provide for lower than industry prevailing rates of base compensation but with opportunity to benefit from profitable operations in the form of cash bonuses and from stock value increases through equity awards.

We were gratified our stockholders approved our executive pay policies by an almost three to one margin at our 2011 stockholders meeting. The stockholder approval of our compensation policies in the non-binding advisory 2011 “say-or-pay” vote has reinforced our belief in the efficacy of the compensation policies we have established and continue to implement.

Mr. Gallagher makes recommendations to the compensation committee with respect to the portion of the cash bonus pool payable and granting of stock-based awards to other executive officers. The compensation committee typically asks Mr. Gallagher to participate in its deliberations concerning approval of cash bonuses payable to and stock awards granted to these executive officers.

Mr. Gallagher and Andrew Levy, our president, participate in making recommendations to the compensation committee with respect to the total amount of cash bonuses to be paid, the allocation of the bonus pool among other officers and key employees of our company and the granting of stock-based awards to other officers and key employees.

The compensation committee members consider the recommendations from management and also draw on the committee members' and the chief executive officer's substantial experience in managing companies in approving bonus levels and stock-based awards.

We structure our executive compensation program to deliver the majority of pay through incentives that drive both operating results and long-term value. During 2011, the substantial majority of each executive officer’s pay was at risk as 75% or more of each executive’s pay was payable under the cash bonus plan or long-term stock incentives. The mix of 2011 actual compensation for the named executive officers in this proxy statement is illustrated below:

| Name & Principal Position   | Base Salary | Cash Bonus | Long-term Incentive |
|---|-------------|------------|---------------------|
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer     | 0%          | 0%         | 100%                |
| Andrew C. Levy, President   | 20%         | 43%        | 37%                 |
| Scott D. Sheldon, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer | 25%         | 42%        | 33%                 |
| Scott Allard, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer   | 19%         | 29%        | 52%                 |
| Kris Bauer, Senior Vice President, Operations                       | 25%         | 38%        | 37%                 |

## Compensation Components

Compensation is broken out into the following components:

**Base Salary.** Mr. Gallagher does not receive a base salary. In connection with his promotion to president in October 2009, Mr. Levy's base salary was established at an amount negotiated between the Company and Mr. Levy. Mr. Sheldon's base salary was established upon the recommendation of executive management and is reviewed periodically, with changes subject to the approval of the compensation committee. Mr. Bauer's base salary was established through negotiations with him at the time of his employment in May 2010. Mr. Allard's base salary was established through negotiations with him at the time of his employment in March 2011.

**Annual Discretionary Incentive Cash Bonus Program.** We structure our annual cash bonus compensation program to reward named executive officers, other management employees (our vice presidents, director level employees and managers) and other employees for our successful performance and each individual's contribution to that performance. For 2011, we decided to pay bonuses to all employees employed prior to October 2011 in light of our strong profitability for the year. However, line pilots and flight dispatchers were excluded from bonus payments due to the new pay scales agreed to and implemented in recent years. Depending on our profitability, cash bonuses may constitute a significant portion of our employees' total compensation. No cash bonus is earned unless our operating income exceeds 5% of our revenue for the year and, in that event, the total bonus pool will not exceed 10% of operating income. The final annual bonus pool amount is determined by our compensation committee after consideration of management recommendations and after the completion of the audit of our financial statements. The allocation of the bonus pool among eligible employees is established by the compensation committee without regard to any objective, predetermined individual performance criteria. The compensation committee relies significantly on the recommendation of our chief executive officer with respect to the participation level of our president and on executive management recommendations with respect to the bonus allocations to other officers and managers.

Although we were profitable during 2011 during difficult fuel cost and economic conditions, achieving an operating margin of 11.0% and net income margin of approximately 6.3%, our net income was down approximately 24.8% from 2010. Despite the fact profitability was substantially impacted by fuel costs over which management has little control, the individual bonus allocations for management were on average down approximately 15% from 2010 levels.

For financial statement reporting purposes, the bonus is accrued throughout each year based on an estimated payment amount. Under our program, named executive officers are eligible to share in the bonus pool in amounts approved by the compensation committee after the end of each year. Payments under this cash bonus program are contingent upon continued employment through the actual date of payment.

**Long-Term Incentive Program.** We believe that long-term performance is achieved through an equity ownership culture that encourages long-term performance by our executive officers. Although our chief executive officer maintains a substantial equity stake in our company, the compensation committee has decided to provide him with modest grants of stock-based awards to reward him for the successful operating results of our company and to further incentivize him to seek additional stock price growth.

The compensation committee considers stock-based awards to our executive officers each year at the time the cash bonus allocations are finalized after the completion of the audit for the year. Strike prices for options or stock appreciation rights (SARs) are established based on the market value of our stock at the time of grant. Other than this annual evaluation of stock-based grants, we would typically only consider additional stock-based grants coincident with a new hire or promotion of management personnel.

Stock-based awards vest over a three year period to encourage continuing employment by the executive officers. Grants of stock options and stock appreciation rights have had a five year term to further encourage the officers to seek stock value appreciation over a period of time.

The awards are set at amounts determined by the compensation committee to achieve a balance between meaningful incentives to our executive officers and reasonable compensation expense for our company. The compensation committee considers the current value of prior and newly granted awards, but does not target any particular weighting in comparison with the total compensation of each executive officer. Nor do we have a policy or target for the allocation between either cash and non-cash compensation or short-term and long-term incentive compensation.

During 2011, cash settled SARs were granted to executive officers in March 2011 as part of their 2010 compensation package. Other than that, the only grants of stock-based awards to executive officers during 2011 were restricted stock grants to Scott Allard and Michael Reichartz in connection with their initial employment in March 2011 and May 2011, respectively.

In February 2012, we granted shares of restricted stock to our named executive officers as part of the 2011 bonus accrual in the number of shares indicated: Gallagher – 9,285 shares, Levy – 11,421 shares, Allard – 5,571 shares, Bauer – 5,571 shares and Sheldon – 5,571 shares. The value of these grants will be reflected in the summary compensation table in next year's proxy statement. As all of these restricted stock grants provide for a three-year vesting period, the compensation to the executive officers remains at risk subject to their continuing employment with us.

The compensation committee also considers the impact each equity grant will have on the future earnings of our company and dilution of our stockholders. The stock grants during the past several years have not been dilutive to our stockholders as the number of shares of stock repurchased by us in the open market under our stock repurchase plans have far exceeded the number of shares subject to equity grants under our long-term incentive plan.

We do not have any guidelines for security ownership of management, nor do we restrict any individual executive's ability to hedge the economic risk of stock ownership.

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

401(k) Plan. In 2000, we established a 401(k) retirement plan that qualifies as a defined contribution plan under Internal Revenue Code section 401(a) and includes a cash or deferred arrangement that qualifies under Code Section 401(k). The plan was established and is maintained for the exclusive benefit of our eligible employees and their beneficiaries. We make matching contributions for active participants equal to 100% of their permitted contributions, up to a maximum of 3% of the participant's annual salary plus 50% of their contributions between 3% and 5% of their annual salary. Eligible employees are immediately 100% vested in their individual contributions and "safe harbor" matching contributions after April 1, 2010.

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

Current Frequency of Shareholder Advisory Votes on the Compensation of Our Named Executive Officers. Our board of directors has determined to include a stockholder advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers in our proxy materials every three years. In making this determination, our board considered the outcome of the "say on pay frequency" advisory vote at the 2011 stockholders' meeting. Although a slight majority of the votes of our stockholders were cast at the 2011 annual meeting in favor of holding an annual, non-binding advisory vote on executive compensation, more than 46% of the votes cast on the non-binding advisory "say on pay frequency" proposal were voted in favor of holding the non-binding advisory "say on pay" vote every three years. Further, our board considered (i) the advantage of a longer term perspective that a triennial vote would bring, in light of the significant equity component of our compensation program with vesting over three or more years, the value of which is directly linked to share performance; (ii) that a vote every three years provides a longer term compensation history and business performance track record against which to measure management's strategic long-term business decisions and more frequent votes may focus undue attention on the particular year being reported as opposed to the longer term focus we are seeking to achieve through our compensation policies; and (iii) the strong support for our compensation program evidenced by the stockholders' 2011 advisory "say on pay" vote on compensation in which approximately 75% of the shares voting on the proposal approved the executive compensation reflected in our 2011 proxy statement.

Therefore, the next stockholder advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers is scheduled to occur at our 2014 annual meeting of stockholders. The next required say on pay frequency vote is currently scheduled for our 2017 annual meeting of stockholders.

## Compensation of Named Executive Officers and Other Information

The following table shows the cash compensation paid or to be paid by us, as well as certain other compensation paid or accrued, during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 to our named executive officers.

## SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE (1)

| Name and Principal Position  | Year | Salary     | Bonus      | Stock Awards (\$) (2) | Option/SAR Awards (\$) (3) | All Other Compensation (4) | Total      |
|--|------|------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. (5)<br>Chief Executive Officer and President               | 2011 | —          | —          | —                     | \$ 157,232                 | —                          | \$ 157,232 |
|  | 2010 | —          | \$ 170,000 | \$ 529,600            | —                          | \$ 7,500                   | 707,100    |
|  | 2009 | —          | 200,000    | —                     | 300,168                    | —                          | 500,168    |
| Andrew C. Levy (6)<br>President, Chief Financial Officer, Managing Director-Planning | 2011 | \$ 285,000 | 615,000    | —                     | 524,106                    | —                          | 1,424,106  |
|  | 2010 | 285,000    | 726,750    | 529,600               | —                          | 28,445                     | 1,569,795  |
|  | 2009 | 205,833    | 855,000    | 1,079,250             | 1,679,585                  | 5,042                      | 3,824,710  |
| Scott Allard (7)<br>Chief Information Officer  | 2011 | 155,532    | 230,000    | 422,300               | —                          | —                          | 807,832    |
| Kris B. Bauer (8)<br>Senior Vice President, Operations                               | 2011 | 200,000    | 300,000    | —                     | 288,249                    | —                          | 788,249    |
|  | 2010 | 122,820    | 238,000    | 511,500               | —                          | —                          | 872,320    |
| Scott Sheldon (9)<br>Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer        | 2011 | 175,000    | 300,000    | —                     | 235,838                    | —                          | 710,838    |
|  | 2010 | 154,375    | 354,000    | 392,675               | —                          | 3,750                      | 904,800    |
|  | 2009 | 120,000    | 300,000    | —                     | 240,134                    | —                          | 660,134    |

(1) The above tables do not include a column for change in pension value and nonqualified deferred compensation earnings as none of the named executive officers received any such compensation in the years disclosed. Cash bonuses are reported in the year to which they relate, but are paid in the first quarter of the following year. Equity grants are reported in the year of grant.

(2) Represents the grant date fair value of restricted stock awards granted, as calculated in accordance with stock-based compensation accounting standards. Please refer to Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements

for further discussion related to valuation. Although the table above indicates the full grant date value of the awards in the year of grant, the restricted stock granted vests over a three-year period.

- (3) Represents the grant date fair value of option and SAR awards granted, as calculated in accordance with stock-based accounting standards. Please refer to Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements for further discussion related to the assumptions used in our valuation. Although the table above indicates the full grant date value of the awards, the options and SARs granted vest over a three-year period or longer.
- (4) All Other Compensation consists of our matching contributions under the 401(k) plan for all officers and cash dividends paid in 2010 on shares of unvested restricted stock. No amount is included in this column for the value of all perquisites and personal benefits, including flight benefits, as these benefits did not exceed \$10,000 for any executive officer.
- (5) Mr. Gallagher served as chief executive officer during all years presented and as president until October 2009.
- (6) Mr. Levy served as managing director through October 2009, served as chief financial officer from October 2007 until May 2010 and has served as president since October 2009. Mr. Levy was granted restricted stock and SARs as part of the employment agreement entered in October 2009 in connection with his promotion to president. The grants of restricted stock and SARs are subject to a three-year vesting schedule. Under SEC reporting rules, the entire fair value of such grants (including amounts that as of the date of grant were unvested) are included as compensation in the year of grant. The compensation committee views the amounts shown for equity awards for Mr. Levy as properly allocable over the three year vesting period.

- (7) Mr. Allard was hired as our senior vice president, chief information officer in March 2011. The salary shown for Mr. Allard is for the period from his hire date in March 2011 through the end of the year.
- (8) Mr. Bauer was hired as our senior vice president, operations in May 2010. The salary shown for Mr. Bauer for 2010 is for the period from his hire date in May 2010 through the end of the year.
- (9) Mr. Sheldon has served as our principal accounting officer since October 2007 and was promoted to chief financial officer in May 2010.

Mr. Gallagher serves without base compensation as a result of his substantial equity interest. Mr. Gallagher has received equity grants and although an annual bonus was not provided as part of 2011 compensation, an allocation under our annual bonus program as a reward for our profitability achievements has been received by Mr. Gallagher in other years. Mr. Levy's base salary was established at \$285,000 per year in connection with his promotion to president in October 2009. Under the employment agreement entered into at that time, Mr. Levy received grants of restricted stock and stock appreciation rights reflected in the table of plan-based awards below, participates in our annual bonus program and is eligible to participate in future equity grants. The agreement has a three-year term ending on December 31, 2012 and provides for a 12-month noncompete upon termination of employment.

Mr. Sheldon's base salary was established upon the recommendation of executive management and is reviewed by the compensation committee from year to year. Mr. Bauer's and Mr. Allard's base salary levels were based on negotiations at the time of their employment in May 2010 and March 2011, respectively.

For 2011, each executive officer other than Mr. Gallagher received bonuses under our annual discretionary incentive cash bonus program. No cash bonus is earned unless our operating income exceeds 5% of our revenue for the year and, in that event, the bonus pool will not exceed 10% of operating income. The final bonus pool amount is determined by our compensation committee after review of the year-end financial statements and after consideration of management recommendations. Each executive officer's allocation of the cash bonus pool is determined by the compensation committee without regard to any objective, predetermined individual performance criteria. The bonus allocation for any executive officer is not targeted at or limited to any particular percentage of base salary.

Other compensation generally consists only of matching contributions under our 401(k) plan. The amount paid for each executive officer depends on his salary reductions. In 2010, other compensation also included cash dividends paid on unvested restricted stock.

No executive officer's salary and bonus is tied to any particular percentage of total compensation, but rather, bonus allocations are made based on our profitability and a subjective evaluation of each officer's performance.



## Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2011

The following table describes grants of plan-based awards to our named executive officers during 2011.

| Name                         | Grant date | Stock awards:<br>number of<br>shares of stock<br>(1) (#) | Option/SAR<br>awards: number<br>of securities<br>underlying<br>options (2) (#) | Exercise or base<br>price of<br>option/SAR<br>awards (\$/sh) | Grant date fair<br>value (3) of<br>stock and<br>option/SAR<br>awards |
|------------------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Maurice J. Gallagher,<br>Jr. | 3/25/2011  | —  | 8,271  | \$ 42.22   | \$ 157,232   |
| Andrew C. Levy               | 3/25/2011  | —  | 27,570   | \$ 42.22   | \$ 524,106   |
| Scott Allard                 | 3/7/2011   | 10,000   | —  | —  | \$ 422,300   |
| Kris B. Bauer                | 3/25/2011  | —  | 15,163   | \$ 42.22   | \$ 288,249   |
| Scott D. Sheldon             | 3/25/2011  | —  | 12,406   | \$ 42.22   | \$ 235,838   |

(1) Grant of restricted stock.

(2) Each of the awards reported in this column consists of a grant of SARs which may only be settled in cash at the time of exercise.

(3) As determined as set forth in Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements. Although the table above indicates the full grant date value of the awards, the restricted stock and SAR awards granted vest over a three-year period.

Our compensation committee considers grants of restricted stock, stock options and SARs to our executive officers annually. The number of shares granted is not based on any particular percentage of the total compensation of the executive officer. Our compensation committee determines the amount of equity grants in an attempt to provide meaningful incentives for the officers, but with consideration to the financial impact on our operating results.

The cash-settled SARs and restricted stock granted in 2011 have a three-year vesting schedule to encourage continued employment by the executive officers.

## Outstanding Equity Awards at Year End

The following table summarizes the number of shares underlying outstanding equity incentive plan awards for each named executive officer as of December 31, 2011.

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| Name                      | Number of Shares Underlying Exercisable Options/SARs (#) |     | Number of Shares Underlying Unexercisable Options/SARs (#) |     | Option/SAR Exercise Price | Option/SAR Expiration Date | Number of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested (#) | Market Value of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$) |                |
|---------------------------|--|-----|--|-----|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. |  |     | 8,271  | (7) | \$ 42.22                  | 3/25/2016                  |  |   |                |
|                           | 16,666   | (1) | 8,333  | (1) | \$ 38.32                  | 1/23/2014                  |  |   |                |
|                           | 18,000   | (2) |  |     | \$ 20.42                  | 4/24/2013                  |  |   |                |
|                           |  |     |  |     |                           | 6,667                      | (10)   | \$ 355,618 (9)  |                |
| Andrew C. Levy            | 40,000   | (3) |  |     | \$ 36.97                  | 10/25/2017                 |  |   |                |
|                           |  |     | 27,570   | (7) | \$ 42.22                  | 3/25/2016                  |  |   |                |
|                           | 50,000   | (4) | 25,000   | (4) | \$ 38.65                  | 10/16/2014                 |  |   |                |
|                           |  |     |  |     |                           |                            | 9,308  | (8)   | \$ 496,489 (9) |
|                           | 33,334   | (1) | 16,666   | (1) | \$ 38.32                  | 1/23/2014                  |  |   |                |
|                           | 18,000   | (2) |  |     | \$ 20.42                  | 4/24/2013                  |  |   |                |
|                           |  |     |  |     |                           | 6,667                      | (10)   | \$ 355,618 (9)  |                |
| Scott Allard              |  |     |  |     |                           |                            | 10,000   | (12)  | \$ 533,400 (9) |
| Kris B. Bauer             |  |     | 15,163   | (7) | \$ 42.22                  | 3/25/2016                  |  |   |                |
|                           |  |     |  |     |                           |                            | 6,667  | (11)  | \$ 355,618 (9) |
| Scott D. Sheldon          |  |     | 12,406   | (7) | \$ 42.22                  | 3/25/2016                  |  |   |                |
|                           | 6,667  | (5) | 6,666  | (1) | \$ 38.32                  | 1/23/2014                  |  |   |                |
|                           | 10,000   | (6) |  |     | \$ 20.42                  | 4/24/2013                  |  |   |                |
|                           |  |     |  |     |                           | 3,333                      | (10)   | \$ 177,782 (9)  |                |
|                           |  |     |  |     |                           | 1,667                      | (11)   | \$ 88,918 (9)   |                |

(1) The option grants of which these awards are a part of provide for vesting of one-third on each of January 23, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

(2) These options vested over a three-year period and were fully vested as of December 31, 2011.

(3) These options vested over a four-year period and were fully vested as of December 31, 2011.

(4) These SARs which may only be settled in stock vest one-third on each of October 16, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

(5) These options are part of an award of 20,000 options vesting one-third on each of January 23, 2010, 2011 and 2012. In 2010, Mr. Sheldon exercised 6,667 of the options constituting part of this grant.

(6) These options are part of an award of 15,000 options which vested over a three-year period and were fully vested as of December 31, 2011. In 2010, Mr. Sheldon exercised 5,000 of the options constituting part of this grant.

(7) These SARs which may only be settled in cash vest one-third on each of March 25, 2012, 2013, and 2014.

- (8) Unvested restricted stock to vest on October 16, 2012.
- (9) Based on our closing stock price of \$53.34 on December 30, 2011.
- (10) Unvested restricted stock to vest one-half on each of February 15, 2012 and 2013.
- (11) Unvested restricted stock to vest one-half on each of May 18, 2012 and 2013.
- (12) Restricted stock grants to vest one-third on each of March 7, 2012, 2013, and 2014.

Option Exercises and Stock Vested Table

The following table summarizes the number of option awards exercised and stock awards vested by our named executive officers in 2011 and the value realized on option exercise or stock award vesting:

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|                           | Option Awards                             |                                | Stock Awards                             |                                |     |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----|
|                           | Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#) | Value Realized on Exercise (#) | Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#) | Value Realized on Vesting (\$) |     |
| Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr. | —   | —                              | 3,333                                    | \$141,786                      | (1) |
| Andrew C. Levy            | —   | —                              | 3,333                                    | \$141,786                      | (1) |
| Andrew C. Levy            | —   | —                              | 9,309                                    | \$462,657                      | (2) |
| Kris B. Bauer             | —   | —                              | 3,333                                    | \$155,951                      | (3) |
| Scott D. Sheldon          | —   | —                              | 1,667                                    | \$70,914                       | (1) |
| Scott D. Sheldon          |   |                                | 833                                      | \$38,976                       | (3) |

(1) Based on our closing stock price of \$42.54 on February 15, 2011, the date of vesting.

(2) Based on our closing stock price of \$49.70 on October 17, 2011, the date of vesting.

(3) Based on our closing stock price of \$46.79 on May 18, 2011, the date of vesting.

#### Employee Benefit Plans

##### Long-Term Incentive Plan

Our Long-Term Incentive Plan (the “2006 Plan”) was adopted by our board of directors and approved by the stockholders in 2006. All outstanding options under the predecessor Allegiant Air 2004 Share Option Plan have been transferred to our 2006 Plan, and no further stock-based awards will be made under that predecessor plan. The transferred options continue to be governed by their existing terms, unless our compensation committee elects to extend one or more features of our 2006 Plan to those options. Except as otherwise noted below, the transferred options have substantially the same terms as grants made under our 2006 Plan.

We have reserved 3,000,000 shares of our common stock for issuance under our 2006 Plan. Such share reserve consists of 500,000 shares that were carried over from our predecessor plan, including the shares subject to outstanding options thereunder. In addition, no participant in our 2006 Plan may be granted stock-based awards for more than 100,000 shares of our common stock per calendar year.

The individuals eligible to participate in our 2006 Plan include our officers and other employees, our non-employee board members and any consultants we engage.

Our 2006 Plan is administered by the compensation committee. This committee determines which eligible individuals are to receive stock-based awards, the time or times when such stock-based awards are to be made, the number of shares subject to each such grant, the status of any granted option as either an incentive stock option or a non-statutory stock option under the federal tax laws, and the terms and conditions of each award including, without limitation, the vesting schedule to be in effect for the option grant or stock issuance and the maximum term for which any granted option is to remain outstanding, provided that no option term may exceed ten years measured from the date of grant.

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

The exercise price for the shares of the common stock subject to option grants made under our 2006 plan may be paid in cash or in shares of common stock valued at fair market value on the exercise date.

The compensation committee has the authority to cancel outstanding options under our option plan, in return for the grant of new options for the same or a different number of option shares with an exercise price per share based upon the fair market value of our common stock on the new grant date.

In the event we are acquired by a merger, a sale by our stockholders of more than 50% of our outstanding voting stock or a sale of all or substantially all of our assets, each outstanding option under our option plan which will not be assumed by the successor corporation or otherwise continued in effect may accelerate in full to the extent provided in the applicable stock option agreement. However, the compensation committee has complete discretion to structure any or all of the options under the option plan so those options will (or may not) immediately vest in the event we are acquired, whether or not those options are assumed by the successor corporation or otherwise continued in effect. Alternatively, the compensation committee may condition such accelerated vesting upon the subsequent termination of the optionee's service with us or the acquiring entity.

We intend that any compensation deemed paid by us in connection with the exercise of options or stock appreciation rights granted under our 2006 Plan for the disposition of the shares purchased or acquired under those options or stock appreciation rights will be regarded as "performance-based," within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code and that such compensation will not be subject to the annual \$1 million limitation on the deductibility of compensation paid to covered executive officers which otherwise would be imposed pursuant to Section 162(m).

For accounting purposes, compensation expense related to equity based awards under the 2006 Plan is measured and recognized in accordance with stock-based compensation accounting standards.

Our board may amend or modify the 2006 Plan at any time, subject to any required stockholder approval, or participant consent. The 2006 Plan will terminate no later than March 31, 2016.

#### Director Compensation

The members of our board of directors have received compensation of \$5,000 per quarter for their service on our board of directors or any committee of our board, and will also be reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses.

Effective April 1, 2012, we approved a revised compensation policy such that outside board members will now receive an annual retainer of \$20,000 per year plus an additional \$5,000 for each meeting attended.

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

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

The following table illustrates the compensation earned or paid to our non-management directors during 2011:

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

| Name             | Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$) (1) | Stock Awards (2) (\$) | All Other Compensation (\$) | Total (\$) |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Montie Brewer    | \$20,000                             | \$43,830              | —                           | \$63,830   |
| Gary Ellmer      | 20,000                               | 43,830                | —                           | 63,830     |
| Timothy P. Flynn | 20,000                               | 43,830                | —                           | 63,830     |
| Charles Pollard  | 20,000                               | 43,830                | —                           | 63,830     |
| John Redmond     | 20,000                               | 43,830                | —                           | 63,830     |

(1) Excludes expense reimbursements. We reimburse our directors for expenses incurred in attending board meetings.

(2) Represents the grant date fair value of restricted stock awards granted to each director in 2011, as calculated in accordance with stock-based compensation accounting standards. Please refer to Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements for further discussion related to the assumptions used in our valuation. All restricted stock granted to directors in 2011 will vest in 2012.

In 2011, no directors received \$10,000 or more in aggregate perquisites or other personal benefits, including the value of flight benefits. We do not provide tax gross-up payments to members of our board of directors.

As of December 31, 2011, each non-employee director held the following number of shares of restricted stock that have not vested:

## Director Compensation Table – Outstanding Stock Awards

| Name             | Award Grant Date | Number of Shares not Vested | Grant Date Fair Value (\$) (1) |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Montie Brewer    | 6/14/2011        | 1,000                       | \$43,830                       |
| Gary Ellmer      | 6/14/2011        | 1,000                       | 43,830                         |
| Timothy P. Flynn | 6/14/2011        | 1,000                       | 43,830                         |
| Charles Pollard  | 6/14/2011        | 1,000                       | 43,830                         |
| John Redmond     | 6/14/2011        | 1,000                       | 43,830                         |

(1) Based on closing stock price on date of grant.

## Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

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

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

We have entered into an employment agreement with Andrew C. Levy. Under the agreement, Mr. Levy would receive twelve months severance pay in the event of termination without cause, resignation for good reason or a change in control. In the event of a change in control, the severance would be paid in a lump sum. In the event of a termination without cause or resignation for good reason, the severance would be payable over the ensuing 12 months along with the fringe benefits to which he is entitled under the agreement. In addition, any unvested equity grants, including restricted stock, stock options and SARs, would vest immediately upon a termination without cause, resignation for good reason or change in control. If such a termination, resignation or change of control had occurred on December 31, 2011, Mr. Levy would have realized approximately \$1,776,258 from an acceleration of vesting of his theretofore unvested stock options (16,666 shares), restricted stock (15,975 shares) stock-settled SARs (25,000 shares) and cash-settled SARs (27,570 shares) held as of December 31, 2011, based on the \$53.34 closing stock price on that date.

Under the terms of Kris Bauer's employment, Mr. Bauer would receive nine months severance pay in the event of termination without cause. In the event of a termination without cause, the severance would be payable over the ensuing nine months along with the fringe benefits to which he is entitled under the agreement. In addition, any unvested equity grants, including restricted stock, stock options and SARs, would vest immediately upon a termination without cause. If such a termination, resignation or change of control had occurred on December 31, 2011, Mr. Bauer would have realized approximately \$524,230 from an acceleration of vesting of his theretofore unvested restricted stock (6,667 shares) and cash-settled SARs (15,163 shares) held as of December 31, 2011, based on the \$53.34 closing stock price on that date.

Under the terms of Scott Allard's employment, Mr. Allard would receive six months severance pay in the event of termination without cause. In the event of a termination without cause, the severance would be payable over the ensuing six months along with the fringe benefits to which he is entitled under the agreement.

REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

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

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Montie R. Brewer Timothy P. Flynn John Redmond

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



## RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Since January 1, 2010, we have been a party to the following transactions in which the amount involved exceeded \$120,000 and in which any of our directors or executive officers, any holder of more than 5% of our capital stock or any member of their immediate families had a direct or indirect material interest.

The building in which we maintain our headquarters is under a lease agreement with an entity owned by a limited partnership in which certain of our directors (Maurice J. Gallagher, Jr., Timothy P. Flynn and John Redmond) own a more than 50% interest as limited partners. In June 2008, we obtained additional office space in the leased building through an amendment to the existing lease agreement with the landlord. The amended lease agreement has a ten year term. In June 2008, we entered into a lease agreement for office space to be used as our training facility which is located in a building adjacent to the location of our headquarters. The second building is also owned by an entity owned by the same limited partnership. The lease agreement for the second building is for a ten year term. During 2011, we paid approximately \$2,284,000 to the landlords under those arrangements. The disinterested members of our board and audit committee have determined that the terms for the lease agreements are at least as favorable as we could have received in arms' length transactions.

We paid \$250,000 during 2011 to Gallagher Motorsports, LLC, a company controlled by Mr. Gallagher, for sponsorship of an auto race team featuring the Allegiant logo.

All future transactions, including loans, if any, between us and our officers, directors and principal stockholders and their affiliates and any transactions between us and any entity with which our officers, directors or five percent stockholders are affiliated, will be approved by a majority of the board of directors, including a majority of the independent and disinterested outside directors, and will be on terms no less favorable to us than could be obtained from unaffiliated third parties.

PROPOSAL NO. 2

RATIFICATION OF THE SELECTION OF  
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The audit committee of our board of directors has selected Ernst & Young, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, to audit our financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2012. Ernst & Young, LLP has audited our financial statements since 2003. At the meeting, our stockholders will be asked to ratify the selection of Ernst & Young, LLP as our independent registered public accountants for 2012.

Although there is no requirement we submit the appointment of independent registered public accountants to stockholders for ratification or that the appointed auditors be terminated if the ratification fails, our audit committee will consider the appointment of other independent registered public accountants if the stockholders choose not to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young, LLP and may retain that firm or another without re-submitting the matter to our stockholders. Even if the appointment is ratified, however, the audit committee of our board of directors may, in its discretion, direct the appointment of different independent registered accountants during the year, if the audit committee determines such a change would be in our best interests.

Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to be available in person during the annual meeting and while they do not plan to make a statement (although they will have the opportunity to do so), they will be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders.

Our board of directors recommends you vote FOR ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young, LLP as our independent registered public accountants.

Principal Accountant Fees and Services

Audit Fees

The aggregate fees billed by Ernst & Young, LLP for the audit of our annual financial statements and services that are normally provided by the accounting firm in connection with statutory and regulatory filings were approximately \$634,000 for the year ended December 31, 2011 and \$546,000 for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Audit-Related Fees

No fees were billed by Ernst & Young, LLP for assurance and related services that were reasonably related to the performance of the audit referred to above during 2011 and 2010.

Tax Fees

The aggregate fees rendered by Ernst & Young, LLP for tax compliance, tax advice or tax planning services were approximately \$168,000 during 2011 and \$95,000 during 2010.

All Other Fees

Ernst & Young, LLP did not provide any professional services during 2011 or 2010 other than those described under the caption "Audit Fees" and "Tax Fees" above.

All non-audit services require an engagement letter to be signed prior to commencing any services. The engagement letter must detail the fee estimates and the scope of services to be provided. The current policy of our audit committee requires pre-approval from our audit committee of the non-audit services in advance of the engagement and the audit committee's responsibilities in this regard may not be delegated to management. No non-audit services were rendered that were not in compliance with this policy.

## STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

We currently expect to hold our 2013 annual meeting of stockholders in June and to mail proxy materials in May 2013. In that regard, stockholders who intend to have a proposal considered for inclusion in our proxy materials for presentation at our 2013 annual meeting of stockholders pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, must submit the proposal to us at our offices at 8360 S. Durango Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113, Attention: Jude Bricker, Secretary, not later than January 10, 2013.

## HOUSEHOLDING OF ANNUAL MEETING MATERIALS

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

## OTHER MATTERS

### Action on Other Matters at the Annual Meeting

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

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

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

/s/ Jude I. Bricker  
Jude I. Bricker,  
Secretary



