Liberty Tax, Inc. Form DEF 14A August 10, 2015

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

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

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

Filed by the Registrant ý

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o

Check the appropriate box:

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

#### Liberty Tax, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- ý No fee required.
- o Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
  - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
  - (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):

Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(4)

	(5)	Total fee paid:						
o	Fee p	aid previously with preliminary materials.						
o		Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.						
	(1)	Amount Previously Paid:						
	(2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:						
	(3)	Filing Party:						
	(4)	Date Filed:						

# Liberty Tax, Inc.

1716 Corporate Landing Parkway Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

August 10, 2015

Dear Fellow Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend Liberty Tax, Inc.'s 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be held on Friday, September 18, 2015 at 11:30 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, at the Company's corporate headquarters located at 1732 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454. Details regarding admission to the meeting and the business to be conducted are described in this proxy statement. We have also made available with this proxy statement a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended April 30, 2015, which includes our 2015 audited consolidated financial statements and provides information about our business.

Every stockholder's vote is important and valued. We look forward to your attendance at the meeting and the opportunity to review our developments over the past year and to share with you our plans for the future. Whether or not you expect to attend the annual meeting, it is important that your shares be represented. You may vote in person by ballot at the 2015 Annual Meeting, or by mailing a proxy card as described in the enclosed materials.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I'd like to thank you for your commitment and support.

Sincerely,

John T. Hewitt

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Liberty Tax, Inc.

# Liberty Tax, Inc.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

The annual meeting of stockholders of Liberty Tax, Inc. (the "Company"), will be held at the Company's corporate headquarters located at 1732 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454, on Friday, September 18, 2015, at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (the "2015 Annual Meeting").

The 2015 Annual Meeting will be held for the following purposes:

- Election of four (4) Directors to the Board of Directors, each to serve until the 2016 annual meeting or until their successors are elected and qualified;
- Ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2016; and
- 3. Any other business that properly comes before the meeting and any adjournment thereof.

The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this notice. The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on July 24, 2015 as the record date for determining stockholders of the Company entitled to receive notice of and vote at the meeting.

Stockholders of record of the Company's Class A Common Stock as of the close of business on July 24, 2015 are entitled to receive notice of, and to vote at, the 2015 Annual Meeting. For this purpose, the holder of our Special Voting Preferred Stock is also entitled to receive notice of, and to vote as a single class with the holders of our Class A Common Stock, at the 2015 Annual Meeting. In addition, the stockholder of record of the Company's Class B Common Stock is entitled to receive notice of, and to vote at, the 2015 Annual Meeting on all matters other than the election of directors. Included in these materials are the Proxy Statement, the Company's 2015 Annual Report to Stockholders, which includes the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2015, this Notice of the Company's 2015 Annual Meeting, and your proxy card. These materials are being sent to stockholders on or about August 10, 2015, and are also available online at the Company's website at www.libertytax.com.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

# JAMES J. WHEATON

General Counsel and Vice President, Legal and Governmental Affairs

Virginia Beach, Virginia August 10, 2015

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#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE 2015 ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING

#### PROXY STATEMENT

This proxy statement ("Proxy Statement") is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Liberty Tax, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company") in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders scheduled for September 18, 2015, at 11:30 a.m., Eastern Standard Time at the Company's corporate headquarters located at 1732 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454 (the "2015 Annual Meeting"). References to the Annual Meeting and this Proxy Statement include any adjournment or postponement of the Annual Meeting. This Proxy Statement, as well as a proxy card and Annual Report, were first mailed to stockholders on or about August 10, 2015.

#### VOTING INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

#### Who may vote at the 2015 Annual Meeting?

Each holder of the 11,876,581 shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock issued and outstanding at the close of business on July 24, 2015 ("Record Date") will be entitled to receive a notice of the 2015 Annual Meeting, and to attend and vote at the 2015 Annual Meeting. These persons are considered "holders of record," and will be entitled to cast one vote per share owned for each proposal to be considered at the 2015 Annual Meeting. Moreover, the holder of our Special Voting Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive notice of and to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting, and to cast 1,000,000 votes, voting as a single class with the holders of the Class A Common Stock on all matters considered at the 2015 Annual Meeting. In addition, the holder of the 900,000 shares of the Company's Class B Common Stock issued and outstanding at the close of business on the Record Date is entitled to receive a notice of the 2015 Annual Meeting, and to attend and vote at the 2015 Annual Meeting as a single class with the shares of the Class A Common Stock and Special Voting Preferred Stock on all matters other than the election of directors. As of the Record Date, the sole holder of the Class B Common Stock was John T. Hewitt, the Company's Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. Because the size of the Board has been established at nine and the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate") provides that the holders of the Class B Common Stock are entitled to elect the minimum number of directors necessary to constitute a majority of the entire Board, Mr. Hewitt is presently entitled to elect five directors. The holders of the Class A Common Stock and Special Voting Preferred Stock are entitled to elect the balance of the Board, as more fully described in this Proxy Statement.

# What proposals will be voted on at the 2015 Annual Meeting?

Stockholders will vote on two proposals at the 2015 Annual Meeting:

- 1. Election of four Directors to serve on our Board of Directors (Proposal 1); and
- Ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP ("KPMG") as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2016 (Proposal 2).

We are not aware of any matters to be presented at the meeting other than those described in this Proxy Statement. If any matters not described in the Proxy Statement are properly presented at the meeting, the proxies will use their own judgment to determine how to vote your shares. If the meeting is adjourned or postponed, the proxies may vote your shares at the adjournment or postponement as well.

#### How does the Board of Directors recommend that I vote on these proposals?

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote your shares:

1. "FOR" each of the Board's nominees for Director (Proposal 1); and

1

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2.

"FOR" the ratification of the appointment of KPMG as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2016 (Proposal 2).

#### Who will bear the cost of this proxy solicitation?

The Company will bear the entire cost of this proxy solicitation, including the preparation, assembly, printing and mailing of this Proxy Statement, the proxy card, Annual Report, and any additional solicitation materials sent by the Company to stockholders. The Company may reimburse brokerage firms and other persons representing beneficial owners of Common Stock for their expenses in forwarding the proxy materials to those beneficial owners. In addition, proxies may be solicited by directors, officers and regular employees of the Company, who will not receive any additional compensation for solicitation, by mail, email, facsimile, telephone or personal contact.

#### What is included in the proxy materials?

The proxy materials include:

Our proxy statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting, including a proxy card; and

Our 2015 Annual Report, which includes our 2015 audited consolidated financial statements.

#### If I am a stockholder of record, how do I vote?

You are entitled to cast one vote per share of Class A Common Stock owned as of the Record Date for each proposal to be considered at the Annual Meeting. You may vote by mail or in person at the Annual Meeting.

## **Voting Before the 2015 Annual Meeting**

#### How do I vote by mail?

If you do not expect to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting in person, and choose to vote on the proposals on the agenda by mail, simply complete the proxy card, sign and date it, and return it in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you are a stockholder whose shares are held in "street name" (i.e., in the name of a broker, bank or other similar organization), you may obtain a proxy, executed in your favor, from the record holder. You may sign the proxy card and return it to the Company, or you may direct the record holder of your shares to vote your proxy in the manner you specify. Further, if your shares are held in street name, you must communicate your instructions respecting the voting of your shares to the record holder, or your broker will be prohibited from voting your shares. Voting by mail will not affect your right to vote in person if you decide to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting; however, if you wish to revoke your proxy, you must first notify the Corporate Secretary of your intent to vote in person, and must actually vote your shares in person at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

#### What does it mean if I receive more than one set of proxy materials for the 2015 Annual Meeting?

It means your shares are held in more than one account. You should vote all of your shares, using the separate proxy card provided with each set of proxy materials.

#### What is householding?

As permitted by the SEC, only one copy of this proxy statement is being delivered to stockholders residing at the same address, unless the stockholders have notified the Company of their desire to receive multiple copies of this proxy statement. This is known as householding.

The Company will promptly deliver, upon request, a separate copy of the proxy statement to any stockholder residing at an address to which only one copy was mailed. Requests for additional copies for the current year or future years should be directed to the Corporate Secretary in writing at

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1716 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454, Attention: Corporate Secretary, or by email at kathleen.curry@libtax.com.

#### How may I view the voting results?

The results of voting at the 2015 Annual Meeting will be filed with the SEC within four business days after the 2015 Annual Meeting and will be available on the SEC's website (www.sec.gov) or on our website (www.libertytax.com). If the final results are not available at that time, we will provide preliminary voting results in a Form 8-K and will provide the final voting results in an amendment to the Form 8-K as soon as they are available.

#### How may I vote in person at the 2015 Annual Meeting?

If you plan to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting and wish to vote your shares in person, you will be asked to present valid government-issued photo identification, such as a driver's license. If you are a holder of record, you will need to bring with you your proxy card to gain admission to the 2015 Annual Meeting. If you require special assistance due to a disability or other reasons, please notify the Corporate Secretary in writing at 1716 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454, Attention: Corporate Secretary or by email at kathleen.curry@libtax.com.

If your shares are held by a broker, bank or other similar organization, bring with you to the 2015 Annual Meeting the proxy card, any voting instruction form that is sent to you, or your most recent brokerage statement or a letter from your broker, bank or other similar organization indicating that you beneficially owned the shares of common stock as of the Record Date. We can use that to verify your beneficial ownership of common stock and admit you to the 2015 Annual Meeting. If you intend to vote at the 2015 Annual Meeting, you also will need to bring to the 2015 Annual Meeting a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other similar organization that authorizes you to vote the shares that the record holder holds for you in its name.

#### How may I revoke my proxy?

You may change or revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted at the 2015 Annual Meeting. You can send a written notice of revocation of your proxy to the Corporate Secretary so that it is received before the taking of the vote at the 2015 Annual Meeting. You can also attend the 2015 Annual Meeting and vote in person. Your attendance at the 2015 Annual Meeting will not in and of itself revoke your proxy. In order to revoke your proxy, you must also notify the Corporate Secretary of your intent to vote in person, and then vote your shares at the 2015 Annual Meeting. If you require assistance in changing or revoking your proxy, please contact the Corporate Secretary at 1716 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454, Attention: Corporate Secretary or by email at kathleen.curry@libtax.com.

#### What constitutes a quorum?

Holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company entitled to vote (taking into account the 1,000,000 votes entitled to be voted as a single class with the Class A Common Stock by the holder of the Special Voting Preferred Stock), who are represented in person or by proxy, will constitute a quorum at the 2015 Annual Meeting. A quorum is required to transact business at the 2015 Annual Meeting. A representative of Wells Fargo Bank N.A. has been appointed by the Company's Board of Directors to act as the inspector of elections. The inspector of elections will tabulate the votes cast by proxy or in person at the 2015 Annual Meeting, and will determine whether or not a quorum is present. If a quorum is not present, the 2015 Annual Meeting will likely be adjourned or postponed in order to solicit additional proxies.

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#### How are votes counted?

Each holder of Class A Common Stock will be entitled to one vote for each share of Class A Common Stock held by the stockholder, and the holder of the Special Voting Preferred Stock will be entitled to a total of 1,000,000 votes, voting as a single class with the Class A Common Stock. In addition, the holder of the 900,000 shares of Class B Common Stock will be entitled to one vote for each share on all matters other than the election of directors. In all matters, other than the election of directors and except as otherwise required by law, the Certificate of Incorporation, the Bylaws or the rules and regulations of NASDAQ, the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the shares present or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the subject matter shall be the act of the stockholders. A plurality of the voting power of the shares of Class A Common Stock (taking into account the 1,000,000 votes entitled to be voted as a single class with the Class A Common Stock by the holder of the Special Voting Preferred Stock) present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote with respect to the election of directors shall elect directors.

Election of Directors (Proposal 1)

To be elected as a Director, a nominee must receive the affirmative vote of a plurality of the votes cast by the holders of Class A Common Stock and the holder of the Special Voting Preferred Stock.

Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (Proposal 2)

Ratification of the appointment of KPMG as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2016 requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the shares present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present. Under Delaware law, abstentions are counted as shares present and entitled to vote at the meeting. Therefore, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "against" the ratification of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

Shares represented by proxy will be voted as directed on the proxy form and, if no direction is given, will be voted as follows:

- 1. "FOR" the election of each of the Director nominees:
- "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of KPMG as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2016; and
- In the best judgment of the persons named in the proxies, with respect to any other matters that may properly come before the meeting.

#### What are broker non-votes and how are they counted?

Brokers, banks or other similar organizations holding shares in street name for customers who are beneficial owners of such shares are prohibited from voting customers' shares on non-routine matters in the absence of specific instructions from those customers. This is commonly referred to as a "broker non-vote." With respect to the proposals in question, broker non-votes will be counted for quorum purposes but will not be counted as "votes cast" either for or against such proposals.

The election of directors is considered a non-routine matter and, therefore, if you hold your shares through a bank, broker or other similar organization, the organization may not vote your shares on this matter absent specific instructions from you. As such, there may be broker non-votes with respect to this matter. Because broker non-votes with respect to the election of directors will not be counted as "votes cast," if your shares are held in street name, it is critical that you vote or provide specific instructions to your broker, bank or similar organization if you want your vote to count. On the other hand, the ratification of the selection of KPMG as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm is considered a routine matter. Therefore, an organization that holds your shares may

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vote on this matter without instructions from you and no broker non-votes will occur with respect to this matter.

If you received more than one proxy card, you may hold shares in more than one account. To ensure that all of your shares are voted, you must sign and return each card. As a holder of common stock of the Company, you are always invited to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting and vote your shares in person.

## Is my vote confidential?

Yes, it is our policy that documents identifying your vote are confidential. The vote of any stockholder will not be disclosed to any third party before the final vote count at the 2015 Annual Meeting except:

To meet any legal requirements;

To assert claims for or defend claims against the Company;

To allow authorized individuals to count and certify the results of the stockholder vote;

If a proxy solicitation in opposition to the Board of Directors takes place; or

To respond to stockholders who have written comments on proxy cards or who have requested disclosure.

#### What is the Company's internet address?

The Company's internet address is www.libertytax.com. The Company's filings with the SEC are available free of charge via the "About Liberty Tax" link at this website (click on the "Investor Relations" heading), and may also be found at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

#### PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Certificate and Amended and Restated Bylaws (the "Bylaws") provide that except as may be provided in a resolution or resolutions of the Board of Directors providing for any series of preferred stock with respect to any directors elected (or to be elected) by the holders of that series, the total number of directors constituting the entire Board of Directors shall consist of not less than five nor more than fifteen members, with the precise number of directors to be determined from time to time by a vote of the Board of Directors.

Except as may be provided in a resolution or resolutions providing for any series of preferred stock with respect to any directors elected (or to be elected) by the holders of that series, any vacancies in the Board of Directors and any newly created directorships resulting by reason of any increase in the number of directors may be filled only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares of the applicable class of capital stock entitled to elect such director, voting together as a single class, and any directors so appointed shall hold office until the next election of directors and until their successors are elected and qualified.

By resolution of the Board of Directors, the present size of the Board has been established at nine, but two unfilled vacancies exist on the Board, one of which is expected to be filled immediately prior to the 2015 Annual Meeting through the appointment of Mr. Robert M. Howard by the holder of the Class B Common Stock, as described below. The Certificate also provides that the holders of the Class B Common Stock are entitled to elect the minimum number of directors necessary to constitute a majority of the entire Board, and that the holders of the Class A Common Stock and Special Voting Preferred Stock are entitled to elect the balance of the Board. John Hewitt, the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, currently owns all outstanding shares of the Company's Class B Common Stock. Because the size of the Board has been established at nine, Mr. Hewitt is presently entitled to

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elect five directors, and the holders of the Class A Common Stock and Special Voting Preferred Stock are entitled to elect the remaining four directors.

Mr. Hewitt has advised the Board of Directors that immediately prior to the 2015 Annual Meeting, he will elect the following four directors, each to serve until the 2016 Annual Meeting or until their successors are elected and qualified:

Gordon D'Angelo John T. Hewitt Robert M. Howard Ellen M. McDowell

Each of the Directors elected by Mr. Hewitt has consented to be named and to serve if elected by him. Under the Certificate, Mr. Hewitt has the right to name different directors if any of his intended designees becomes unavailable for election for any reason, or for any other reason. Mr. Hewitt has indicated to the Board that at this time, he intends to continue to leave the fifth Board seat to which he is entitled to elect a director vacant, reserving the right to fill that Board seat at a later time.

The Bylaws include an advance notice procedure for stockholder approvals to be brought before an annual meeting of stockholders, including proposed nominations of persons for election to the Board of Directors. No nominations were received for the 2015 Annual Meeting, and the four nominees for the Board of Directors being recommended for election at the 2015 Annual Meeting are being recommended by the Board of Directors, acting upon the recommendation of the Board's Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Each of the four nominees, if elected, will hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders or until his or her successor is elected and qualified. The Board has nominated John R. Garel, Steven Ibbotson, Ross N. Longfield and George T. Robson for election as directors of the Company. Each nominee has consented to be named and to serve if elected. If any of the nominees becomes unavailable for election for any reason, the proxies will be voted for any substitute nominees.

#### DIRECTOR NOMINEES AND CLASS B STOCKHOLDER DESIGNEES

The following table sets forth information regarding our director nominees and designees, as of the date of this proxy statement:

Name	Age	Position(s)				
Director Nominees						
John R. Garel	56	Director				
Steven Ibbotson	53	Director				
Ross N. Longfield	74	Director				
George T. Robson	68	Director				
Director Designees of Class B Stockholder						
Gordon D'Angelo	62	Director				
John T. Hewitt	66	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer				
Robert M. Howard	50	Director				
Ellen M. McDowell	55	Director				

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that you vote "FOR" the election to the Board of Directors each of the four nominees identified above as "Director Nominees."

# QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF DIRECTOR NOMINEES AND CLASS B STOCKHOLDER DESIGNEES

#### **Director Nominees**

*John R. Garel.* Mr. Garel has served as a Director since May 2003. From June 2000 until the present, Mr. Garel has served as a Senior Managing Director for Envest Holdings, a private equity management company. As a Senior Managing Director of Envest Holdings, which manages two funds that are among our largest stockholders, Mr. Garel has garnered expertise in analysis of investment opportunities and evaluation of business strategies. In his tenure at Envest, Mr. Garel has overseen the deployment of capital across a variety of industries.

Steven Ibbotson. Mr. Ibbotson has served as a Director since June 1999. Mr. Ibbotson has served as General Manager for Farm Business Consultants, Inc. ("FBC") in Calgary, Alberta since September 1997. From September 1995 until September 1997, he served as a General Manager-Western Canada for FBC, Inc. also in Calgary, Alberta. From September 1993 until September 1995 he served as Director of Marketing for FBC in London, Ontario. FBC is a tax preparation and consulting firm serving farmers and small business owners across Canada. Through his service as General Manager and various other positions at FBC, Mr. Ibbotson brings many years of tax preparation industry expertise to our Board. Mr. Ibbotson has developed significant managerial expertise through his career at FBC and is familiar with many of the operational challenges in the tax preparation industry. Mr. Ibbotson also serves as the Board of Directors' representative of our largest stockholder, DataTax Business Services Limited.

Ross N. Longfield. Mr. Longfield has served as a Director since December 2001. Mr. Longfield is managing partner of Longfield Consulting, a financial services firm located in Wyoming. From November 2002 through December 2004 Mr. Longfield served as Chairman of the Board of Incurrent Solutions in Parsippany, New Jersey. From June 1998 until December 2000, Mr. Longfield served as a Managing Director for Household International in Bridgewater, New Jersey. He was Chairman and CEO of Beneficial Bank USA from 1990 to 1998, was a pioneer of the refund anticipation loan concept and has many years of experience in the tax preparation industry. Mr. Longfield brings highly valuable financial and managerial expertise to the Board through his service with Incurrent Solutions, Household International and other public and private companies. Mr. Longfield is highly experienced and knowledgeable in financial analysis, financial statements and risk management, which qualifies him as one of our audit committee financial experts.

George T. Robson. Mr. Robson has served as a Director since April 1999. Mr. Robson, currently retired, served as the Chief Financial Officer for Dendrite International, a sales and software concern in Morristown, New Jersey from June 1997 until June 2002, and as interim Chief Financial Officer from June to November 2005. Mr. Robson also previously served as the principal of Caversham Associates, a financial consulting firm in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, from June 2002 until April 2006. Mr. Robson was the Chief Financial Officer for H&R Block from January 1996 until May 1997. Mr. Robson brings highly valuable financial expertise to the Board through his experience as the Chief Financial Officer of various companies, including service in our industry as the Chief Financial Officer of H&R Block in the mid-1990s. Mr. Robson is highly experienced and knowledgeable in financial analysis, financial statements and risk management, which qualifies him as one of our audit committee financial experts. Mr. Robson also possesses management advisory experience through his past service as a director of several companies.

#### Class B Stockholder Designees

Gordon D'Angelo. Mr. D'Angelo has served as a Director since June 2011. Mr. D'Angelo is the co-founder of and until December 2014 was the Chairman of NEXT Financial Group and related entities, an independent registered broker/dealer that provides financial services such as retirement planning, estate planning and investment management through 250 offices in 48 states. Mr. D'Angelo is presently a management consultant and has been employed by the Company since April 2015, assisting with both franchise development and marketing. Prior to co-founding NEXT Financial in 1998, Mr. D'Angelo was a director of Jackson Hewitt. Mr. D'Angelo brings to the Board of Directors a wealth of experience in the financial services industry, drawing upon his experience from his co-founding of NEXT Financial Group in 1998 where he strengthened his leadership capabilities and management advisory expertise. Mr. D'Angelo also has experience in the tax preparation industry, in that he previously worked for H&R Block before serving as a director of Jackson Hewitt.

John T. Hewitt. Mr. Hewitt has served as our Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President since October 1996. Mr. Hewitt is a pioneer in the tax preparation industry with a career in the industry spanning over 40 years. From August 1982 until June 1996, Mr. Hewitt was the Founder, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Jackson Hewitt Inc., in Virginia Beach, Virginia. From December 1969 until June 1981, Mr. Hewitt held the varying positions of Tax Preparer, Assistant District Manager, District Manager, and Regional Director with H&R Block in Buffalo and Elmira, New York and Moorestown, New Jersey. Mr. Hewitt is the brother of Ellen M. McDowell, one of our directors. In serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors as well as Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Hewitt is effectively able to integrate the operating and business strategies of the company, which is an invaluable asset to the Board in formulating our overall strategic direction.

Ellen M. McDowell. Ms. McDowell has served as a Director since June 2010. From January 1998 until the present, Ms. McDowell has also served as an Attorney and Managing Shareholder at McDowell-Riga-Posternock, P.C., in Maple Shade, New Jersey. Ms. McDowell is the sister of John Hewitt, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Her experience as an attorney provides an important legal perspective for our Board as it considers various operating and business strategies.

Robert M. Howard. Mr. Howard is expected to be appointed as a director by Mr. Hewitt immediately prior to the 2015 Annual Meeting. Since 2010, Mr. Howard has served as Chief Investment Officer of GoldKey/PHR Hotels & Resorts, a hotel management company based in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Mr. Howard joined GoldKey/PHR in 1990 as Controller and subsequently served as Executive Vice President of Finance and Accounting and as Chief Financial Officer. Prior to joining GoldKey/PHR, Mr. Howard provided audit, tax and consulting services with both Ernst & Whinney and with a regional accounting firm. Mr. Howard's management, finance and accounting backgrounds are expected to provide substantial additional expertise to the Board.

#### COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Our Board of Directors currently has three standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The responsibilities of each committee are described below. Members serve on these committees until their resignation or until otherwise determined by our Board of Directors. The chart below reflects the current composition of each of the standing committees. Robert M. Howard is expected to join the

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Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees of the Board of Directors when he becomes a member of the Board in September 2015.

		Nominating and Corporate				
Audit	Compensation	Governance				
X	X	X(1)				
	X(1)	X				
X		X				
X(1)		X				
	X	X X X X(1)				

(1)

Chairperson of Committee

#### Audit Committee

Our Audit Committee, which met eight times during the fiscal year ended April 30, 2015 ("fiscal 2015"), provides oversight of our accounting and financial reporting process, the audit of our financial statements and our internal control function. Among other matters, the Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in oversight of the independent auditors' qualifications, independence and performance; is responsible for the engagement, retention and compensation of the independent auditors; reviews the scope of the annual audit; reviews and discusses with management and the independent auditors the results of the annual audit and the review of our quarterly consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures in our annual and quarterly reports filed with the SEC; reviews our risk assessment and risk management processes; establishes procedures for receiving, retaining and investigating complaints received by us regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or audit matters; approves audit and permissible non-audit services provided by our independent auditor; and reviews and approves related party transactions under Item 404 of Regulation S-K. In addition, our Audit Committee oversees our internal audit function.

All members of our Audit Committee meet the requirements for financial literacy under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and NASDAQ. Our Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Robson and Mr. Longfield are audit committee financial experts as defined under the applicable rules of the SEC and NASDAQ. All of the members of our Audit Committee are independent directors as defined under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and NASDAQ. The Board has adopted a written Audit Committee Charter, which is available at the Company's website at www.libertytax.com or upon written request to the Corporate Secretary, Liberty Tax, Inc., 1716 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454.

#### **Compensation Committee**

Our Compensation Committee, which met five times during fiscal 2015, adopts and administers the compensation policies, plans and benefit programs for our executive officers and all other members of our executive team. In addition, among other things, our Compensation Committee annually evaluates, in consultation with the Board of Directors, the performance of our Chief Executive Officer, reviews and approves corporate goals and objectives relevant to compensation of our Chief Executive Officer and other executives and evaluates the performance of these executives in light of those goals and objectives. Our Compensation Committee also adopts and administers our equity compensation plans.

All of the members of our Compensation Committee are independent under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and NASDAQ, and Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (the

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"Code"). The Board has adopted a written Compensation Committee Charter, which is available at the Company's website at www.libertytax.com or upon written request to the Corporate Secretary, Liberty Tax, Inc., 1716 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454.

#### Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, which met once during fiscal 2015, is responsible for, among other things, making recommendations regarding corporate governance, the composition of our Board of Directors, identification, evaluation and nomination of director candidates and the structure and composition of committees of our Board of Directors. In addition, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee oversees our corporate governance guidelines, approves our Committee charters, oversees compliance with our code of business conduct and ethics, reviews actual and potential conflicts of interest of our directors and officers other than related party transactions reviewed by the Audit Committee and oversees the Board self-evaluation process. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is also responsible for making recommendations regarding non-employee director compensation to the full Board of Directors.

Each of the members of the Board of Directors other than our President and Chief Executive Officer, John T. Hewitt, Ellen McDowell, who is Mr. Hewitt's sister, and Gordon D'Angelo, who is presently employed by the Company, are members of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. All of the members of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are independent under the rules and regulations of NASDAQ. The Board has adopted a written Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Charter, which is available at the Company's website at www.libertytax.com or upon written request to the Corporate Secretary, Liberty Tax, Inc., 1716 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454.

#### Meeting Attendance

During our fiscal year ended April 30, 2015, our Board of Directors held five meetings, either in person or by telephone. Each Director attended at least 75% of the aggregate of (1) the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors held while he or she was a Director, and (2) the total number of meetings held by all committees on which he or she served during the periods that he or she served on the committee.

#### Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires our officers and directors, and persons who own more than 10% of our common stock, to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission reports detailing their ownership of our common stock and changes in such ownership. Officers, directors and greater than 10% shareholders are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

The following is a list of the late filings of Section 16(a) reports during fiscal year 2015 by our executive officers and directors who served during fiscal year 2015:

George Robson, a member of our Board of Directors, filed a late Form 4 on July 21, 2014 in connection with sales of shares on July 2, 2014, July 3, 2014, July 7, 2014, July 8, 2014, July 9, 2014, July 10, 2014, July 11, 2014 and July 14, 2014.

Gordon D'Angelo, a member of our Board of Directors, filed a late Form 4 on August 6, 2014 in connection with a sale of shares on December 20, 2013.

Ellen McDowell, a member of our Board of Directors, filed a late Form 4 on September 2, 2014 in connection with a stock option award exercised on August 27, 2014.

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Michael Piper, our Vice President of Financial Products, filed a late Form 4 on March 18, 2015 in connection with a stock option award granted on March 13, 2015.

#### Director Attendance at Annual Meeting of Stockholders

Although the Company has no specific policy regarding director attendance at the Company's Annual Meeting of Stockholders, all directors are encouraged to attend, and each director attended the 2014 Annual Meeting.

#### Communications with the Board

Stockholders and other interested parties wishing to communicate with the Board of Directors, the non-employee directors, or an individual Board member concerning the Company may do so by writing to the Board, to the non-employee directors, or to the particular Board member, and mailing the correspondence to the Corporate Secretary, Liberty Tax, Inc., 1716 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454. Please indicate on the envelope whether the communication is from a stockholder or other interested party. In addition, our Board members have made and may in the future make themselves available for consultation and direct communication with significant stockholders.

#### COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

Messrs. D'Angelo and Ibbotson served as members of our Compensation Committee until April 10, 2015, when Mr. D'Angelo was replaced on the Compensation Committee by Mr. Garel due to Mr. D'Angelo's employment by the Company. None of the current members of our Compensation Committee is or has at any time during the past year been one of our officers or employees during their service on the Committee. None of our executive officers currently serves, or in the past year has served, as a member of the Board of Directors or Compensation Committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving on our Board of Directors or Compensation Committee.

#### NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

In fiscal 2015, directors other than Mr. Hewitt received the option of an annual retainer of \$45,000 or an equal amount of compensation in the form of restricted stock. In addition, for those directors who serve on the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, members receive annual retainers of \$10,000, \$7,500 and \$5,000, and the chairpersons receive annual retainers of \$20,000, \$10,000 and \$7,500, respectively. Our committee members are also entitled to receive this cash compensation in the form of restricted stock, if they so elect. For fiscal 2015, we also granted our directors other than Mr. Hewitt stock-based compensation in the form of stock options and restricted stock units in a total combined approximate annual value of \$65,000.

The table below sets forth all compensation paid to our non-employee directors and for Mr. D'Angelo for fiscal 2015. Information regarding Mr. Hewitt's compensation is included under "Executive Compensation." For the purposes of this proxy statement, because Mr. D'Angelo's service

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as an employee of the Company is expected to end in December 2015, he continues to be treated for board compensation purposes as a non-employee member of the Board of Directors.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Sto	ock Awards (1)(2)	Option Awards (3)(4)	C	All Other ompensation (5)	Total
Gordon D'Angelo	\$	\$	79,164	\$ 43,504	\$	119,900	\$ 242,568
John R. Garel			84,164	43,504			127,668
Steven Ibbotson	60,000		21,664	43,504			125,168
Ross N. Longfield	60,000		21,664	43,504			125,168
Ellen M. McDowell	45,000		21,664	43,504			110,168
George T. Robson	70,000		21,664	43,504			135,168

- Amounts in this column reflect the grant date fair value of the restricted stock and restricted stock units (RSUs) granted to each non-employee director under the Company's 2011 Equity and Cash Incentive Plan, calculated in accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718 ("ASC Topic 718"), based on the fair market value, as determined by the Board of Directors, of the Company's stock on the effective date of grant. Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts for fiscal 2015 are included in Note 10 to the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2015.
- Represents RSUs granted to directors other than Mr. Hewitt, which generally vest and become subject to settlement 12 months after the date of grant. Each RSU represents the right to receive settlement of one share of the Company's Class A Common Stock. The aggregate amount of RSUs outstanding as of April 30, 2015 for each director was as follows: Mr. D'Angelo, 649 RSUs; Mr. Garel, 649 RSUs; Mr. Ibbotson, 649 RSUs, Mr. Longfield, 649 RSUs, Ms. McDowell, 649 RSUs, and Mr. Robson, 649 RSUs. In addition, during fiscal 2015, Messrs. D'Angelo and Garel each elected to receive restricted stock in lieu of their cash compensation for Board and committee service, and these shares vested immediately upon receipt at the beginning of each fiscal quarter. For each of the awards, the grant date fair value of these awards is calculated using the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date prior to grant.
- Amounts in this column reflect the grant date fair value of the options granted to each director, other than Mr. Hewitt, under the Company's 2011 Equity and Cash Incentive Plan calculated in accordance with ASC Topic 718, based on the fair market value, as determined by the Board of Directors of the Company's stock on the date of grant. Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts for fiscal 2015 are included in Note 10 to the Company'