#### 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 x

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))
- x Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

Monster Beverage Corporation

(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):

x No fee required.

0

- 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):

- (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
- (5) Total fee paid:

o Fee paid 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:

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## MONSTER BEVERAGE CORPORATION 1 Monster Way Corona, California 92879

## ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD AUGUST 7, 2015

June 24, 2015

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Monster Beverage Corporation (the "Company") to be held on Friday, August 7, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. local time, at our corporate offices, located at 1 Monster Way, Corona, California 92879 (the "Annual Meeting"). This proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Company.

In addition to the specific matters to be voted on at the Annual Meeting that are listed in the accompanying notice, there will be a report on the Company's business and an opportunity for stockholders of the Company to ask questions.

We are pleased to take advantage of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission rule that allows companies to furnish proxy materials to their stockholders over the Internet. As a result, we are mailing to our stockholders a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") instead of a paper copy of this proxy statement and our Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. We believe this process allows us to provide our stockholders with the information they need in a timely manner, while reducing the environmental impact and lowering costs of printing and distributing our proxy materials. The Notice contains instructions on how to access those documents over the Internet. The Notice also contains instructions on how to request a paper copy of our proxy materials, including this proxy statement, our Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and a form of proxy card or voting instruction card.

I hope that you will be able to join us. Your vote is important to us and to our business. I encourage you to vote by telephone, over the Internet, or if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, by marking, signing, dating and returning your proxy card so that your shares will be represented and voted at the Annual Meeting, whether or not you plan to attend. If you attend the Annual Meeting, you will, of course, have the right to revoke the proxy and vote your shares in person.

The proxy materials, including this proxy statement and our Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, are being distributed and made available on or about June 24, 2015.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Rodney C. Sacks</u> Rodney C. Sacks Chairman of the Board of Directors

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## MONSTER BEVERAGE CORPORATION NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD AUGUST 7, 2015

## TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Monster Beverage Corporation ("Monster" or the "Company") will be held on Friday, August 7, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. local time, at the Company's corporate offices, located at 1 Monster Way, Corona, California 92879 (the "Annual Meeting"), for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect ten directors to serve until the 2016 annual meeting of stockholders of the Company;
- 2. To ratify the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP to serve as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015;
- 3. To approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers;
- 4. To consider a stockholder proposal regarding proxy access, if properly presented at the Annual Meeting (the "Proxy Access Proposal"); and
- 5. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders accompanying this Notice. Only stockholders of the Company of record at the close of business on June 17, 2015 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

We will make available a list of stockholders as of the close of business on June 17, 2015 for inspection by stockholders during normal business hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. local time, from July 27, 2015 through August 6, 2015, at the Company's executive offices, 1 Monster Way, Corona, CA 92879. This list will also be available to stockholders at the Annual Meeting.

All stockholders of the Company are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting in person. However, to ensure your representation at the Annual Meeting, you are urged to vote by telephone, over the Internet, or if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, by marking, signing, dating and returning your proxy card. You may revoke your voted proxy at any time prior to the Annual Meeting or vote in person if you attend the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Rodney C. Sacks</u> Rodney C. Sacks Chairman of the Board of Directors

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IMPORTANT: WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO VOTE YOUR SHARES AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE. IN ADDITION TO VOTING IN PERSON, STOCKHOLDERS OF RECORD MAY VOTE VIA A TOLL FREE TELEPHONE NUMBER OR OVER THE INTERNET AS INSTRUCTED IN THESE MATERIALS. IF YOU REQUESTED TO RECEIVE A PROXY CARD OR VOTING INSTRUCTION CARD BY MAIL, YOU MAY ALSO VOTE BY MARKING, SIGNING, DATING AND MAILING THE PROXY CARD PROMPTLY IN THE RETURN ENVELOPE PROVIDED. PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOUR SHARES ARE HELD BY A BROKER OR OTHER INTERMEDIARY AND YOU WISH TO VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, YOU MUST OBTAIN A LEGAL PROXY FORM FROM THAT RECORD HOLDER.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be Held on August 7, 2015.

The Company's Proxy Statement and the Company's Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 are available at https://materials.proxyvote.com/61174X.

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## MONSTER BEVERAGE CORPORATION

## PROXY STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

## INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING

## General

The Board of Directors of Monster Beverage Corporation ("Monster" or the "Company") is soliciting proxies to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company (the "Annual Meeting") to be held on Friday, August 7, 2015 at 1:00

p.m. local time, for the purposes set forth herein and in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Company's executive offices located at 1 Monster Way, Corona, California 92879. In this proxy, unless the context requires otherwise, references to "we", "our", or "us" refer to Monster.

The proxy materials, including this proxy statement and our Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, are being distributed and made available on or about June 24, 2015. This proxy statement contains important information for you to consider when deciding how to vote on matters brought before the Annual Meeting. Please read it carefully.

## Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials

In accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), we have elected to provide our stockholders access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") will be mailed on or about June 24, 2015 to our stockholders who owned the Company's common stock, par value \$0.005 per share (the "Common Stock"), at the close of business on June 17, 2015. Stockholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials on a website referred to in the Notice, or request that a printed set of the proxy materials be sent to them by following the instructions in the Notice.

## Householding

If you are a beneficial owner, your bank or broker may deliver a single proxy statement, along with individual proxy cards, or individual Notices to any household at which two or more stockholders reside unless contrary instructions have been received from you. This procedure, referred to as householding, reduces the volume of duplicate materials shareholders receive and reduces mailing expenses. Stockholders may revoke their consent to future householding mailings or enroll in householding by contacting American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC, 1-800-937-5449, or by writing to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC, 1-800-937-5449, or by writing to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC, 6201 15<sup>th</sup> Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11219. Alternatively, if you wish to receive a separate set of proxy materials for this year's Annual Meeting, we will deliver them promptly upon request to Monster Beverage Corporation, 1 Monster Way, Corona, CA 92879 or by calling (951) 739-6200 or (800) 426-7367.

## **Record Date, Outstanding Voting Securities**

Holders of record of Common Stock at the close of business on June 17, 2015 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting. Each share entitles its holder to one vote. As of the record date, 204,257,291 shares of our Common Stock were issued and outstanding. There are no other outstanding voting securities of the Company.

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#### Quorum

The presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of one-third of the shares of Common Stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is necessary to constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Such stockholders are counted as present at the Annual Meeting if they (i) are present in person at the Annual Meeting or (ii) have properly submitted their vote by telephone, over the Internet, or by returning their proxy card. Abstentions and withheld votes will be counted for determining whether a quorum is present for the Annual Meeting.

## **Required Vote**

In accordance with the Company's by-laws:

- Directors are elected by the affirmative vote of a plurality of the votes cast in person or by proxy by the holders of shares of Common Stock entitled to vote in the election at the Annual Meeting (subject to resignation in accordance with the Company's director resignation policy as further described in "Proposal One Election of Directors");
- The ratification of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm shall be by the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast on the proposal in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting;
- The approval, on a non-binding, advisory basis, of the compensation of the Company's named executive officers shall be by the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast on the proposal in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting (the "Say-on-Pay Proposal"); and
- The approval of a stockholder proposal regarding proxy access, if properly presented at the Annual Meeting, shall be by the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast on the proposal in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting (the "Proxy Access Proposal")

in each case, provided a quorum is present. Thus, abstentions and broker non-votes will not be included in vote totals and will have no effect on the outcome of any of these votes.

## **Non-Discretionary Proposals**

If you are a beneficial owner and hold your shares in street name and do not provide the organization that holds your shares with voting instructions, the broker or other intermediary will determine if it has the discretionary authority to vote on the particular matter. Brokers and other intermediaries may not vote uninstructed shares in (i) the election of directors, (ii) the approval of the Say-on-Pay Proposal, and (iii) the approval of the Proxy Access Proposal. If your shares are held by a broker or other intermediary and you do not instruct your broker or other intermediary how to vote for each of these proposals, no votes will be cast on your behalf. Therefore, it is important that you cast your vote if you want it to count for each of these proposals.

## **Discretionary Proposals**

Brokers that do not receive instructions are entitled to vote on the ratification of the independent registered public accounting firm.

No stockholder shall be entitled to cumulate votes. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company ("AST") will receive and tabulate the proxies.

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## **Board of Directors' Recommendations**

The Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board of Directors" or the "Board") recommends a vote:

- "FOR" each of the nominees to the Board (Proposal One);
- "FOR" the ratification of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accountants for fiscal year 2015 (Proposal Two);
- "FOR", on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers (Proposal Three); and
- "AGAINST" the stockholder proposal regarding proxy access (Proposal Four).

## How to Vote

If your shares are registered directly in your name with the Company's registrar and transfer agent, AST, you are considered a stockholder of record with respect to those shares, and the Notice was sent to you directly by the Company. As the stockholder of record, you have the right to grant your voting proxy directly to the Company or to vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

If your shares are held in a brokerage account, bank, broker-dealer, trust or similar organization, you are considered the "beneficial owner" of those shares held in street name, and the Notice was forwarded to you by that organization. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker or other intermediary how to vote your shares, and you are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting.

Your vote is very important to us and we hope that you will attend the Annual Meeting. However, whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please vote by proxy in accordance with the instructions on your proxy card, voting instruction form (from your broker or other intermediary), or the instructions that you received through electronic mail. There are three convenient ways of submitting your vote:

- **By Telephone or Internet** All stockholders of record can vote by touchtone telephone from the U.S. using the toll free telephone number on the proxy card, or over the Internet, using the procedures and instructions described on the proxy card. Beneficial owners may vote by telephone or Internet if their broker or other intermediary makes those methods available, in which case the broker or other intermediary will enclose the instructions with the proxy materials. The telephone and Internet voting procedures are designed to authenticate stockholders' identities, to allow stockholders to vote their shares, and to confirm that their instructions have been recorded properly.
- **In Person** All stockholders of record may vote in person at the Annual Meeting. Beneficial owners may vote in person at the Annual Meeting if their broker or other intermediary has furnished a legal proxy. If you are a beneficial owner and would like to vote your shares by proxy, you will need to ask your broker or other intermediary to furnish you with a legal proxy. You will need to bring the legal proxy with you to the Annual Meeting and hand it in with a signed ballot that will be provided to you at the Annual Meeting. You will not be able to vote your shares without a legal proxy.

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*By Written Proxy* - All stockholders of record can vote by written proxy card, if they have requested to receive printed proxy materials. If you are a beneficial holder and you requested to receive printed proxy materials, you will receive a

written proxy card and a voting instruction form from your broker or other intermediary.

## **Revocability of Proxies**

If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke your proxy and change your vote at any time before the Annual Meeting by: (i) delivering a written notice of revocation to our Secretary at our principal executive offices; (ii) voting again over the Internet or by telephone (only your latest Internet or telephone proxy submitted prior to the Annual Meeting will be counted) or, if you requested and received written proxy materials, by signing and returning a new proxy card with a later date; or (iii) by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person.

If you are a beneficial owner, you may revoke your proxy and change your vote at any time before the Annual Meeting by: (i) submitting new voting instructions to your broker or other intermediary; or (ii) if you have obtained a legal proxy from your broker or other intermediary, by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person.

## Solicitation

The cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by the Company. The Company will reimburse brokerage firms and other persons representing beneficial owners of shares for their expenses in forwarding solicitation material to such beneficial owners. In addition to solicitation by use of the mail or via the Internet, proxies may also be solicited by certain of the Company's directors, officers and regular employees, without additional compensation, personally or by telephone, facsimile or letter. In addition, the Company has engaged D.F. King & Co., Inc. to act as its proxy solicitor and has agreed to pay approximately \$8,500.00 plus reasonable expenses for such services.

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## PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS AND SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth, as of the most recent practical date, June 12, 2015 (unless otherwise noted below), the beneficial ownership of the Company's Common Stock of (a) those persons known to the Company to be the beneficial owners of more than 5% of the Company's Common Stock; (b) each of the Company's directors and nominees for director; (c) the Company's named executive officers; and (d) all of the Company's current directors and executive officers as a group. In computing the number and percentage of shares beneficially owned by each person, we include any shares of Common Stock that could be acquired within 60 days of June 12, 2015 by the exercise of options or the vesting of restricted stock units. Such shares, however, are not counted in computing the percentage ownership of any other person.

Amount and Nature of

Dowcont of

	Amount and Nature of	Percent of
Name and Address of Beneficial Owner*	Beneficial Ownership	Class
Brandon Limited Partnership No. 1 <sup>1</sup>	1,881,856	**%
Brandon Limited Partnership No. 2 <sup>2</sup>	9,815,648	4.8%
Hilrod Holdings IV, L.P.	34,924	**%
Hilrod Holdings V, L.P.	71,428	**%
Hilrod Holdings VI, L.P.	107,900	**%
Hilrod Holdings VII, L.P.	40,072	**%
Hilrod Holdings VIII, L.P.	189,528	**%
Hilrod Holdings IX, L.P.	151,148	**%
Hilrod Holdings X, L.P.	83,306	**%
Hilrod Holdings XI, L.P.	168,414	**%
Hilrod Holdings XII, L.P.	153,534	**%
Hilrod Holdings XIII, L.P.	727,354	**%
Hilrod Holdings XIV, L.P.	2,000,000	**%
Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P.	287,736	**%
Rodney C. Sacks 2008 GRAT #2	30,068	**%
Rodney C. Sacks 2009 GRAT #2	77,121	**%
RCS Direct 2010 GRAT	35,162	**%
RCS Direct 2010 GRAT #2	1,612	**%
RCS Direct 2011 GRAT	68,438	**%
Sterling Trustees LLC <sup>3</sup>	12,258,454	6.0%
FMR LLC <sup>4</sup>	17,972,636	8.8%
Wellington Management Company, LLP <sup>5</sup>	11,188,295	5.5%
The Vanguard Group <sup>6</sup>	11,294,453	5.5%
The Coca-Cola Company <sup>7</sup>	34,040,534	16.7%
Rodney C. Sacks <sup>8</sup>	18,099,119	8.8%
Hilton H. Schlosberg <sup>9</sup>	18,054,928	8.8%
Mark J. Hall <sup>10</sup>	381,936	**%
Thomas J. Kelly <sup>11</sup>	36,750	**%

Sydney Selati <sup>12</sup>	17,401	**%
Norman C. Epstein <sup>13</sup>	13,299	**%
Harold C. Taber, Jr. <sup>14</sup>	60,288	**%
Benjamin M. Polk, Jr. <sup>15</sup>	13,888	**%
Mark S. Vidergauz, Jr. <sup>16</sup>	20,488	**%

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Officers and Directors as a group (9 members: 20,985,249 shares or 10.14% in aggregate).

\* Except as noted otherwise, the address for each of the named stockholders is 1 Monster Way, Corona, California 92879.

\*\* Less than 1%.

<sup>1</sup>The mailing address of Brandon Limited Partnership No. 1 ("Brandon No. 1") is 56 Conduit Street, London W1S 2YZ England. The general partners of Brandon No. 1 are Rodney C. Sacks and Hilton H. Schlosberg.

<sup>2</sup> The mailing address of Brandon Limited Partnership No. 2 ("Brandon No. 2") is 56 Conduit Street, London W1S 2YZ England. The general partners of Brandon No. 2 are Rodney C. Sacks and Hilton H. Schlosberg.

<sup>3</sup> Based on Schedule 13G/A, filed February 12, 2015 by Sterling Trustees LLC, based on common shares held on December 31, 2014. The mailing address of this reporting person is 101 S. Main Avenue, Suite 310, Sioux Falls, SD 57104.

<sup>4</sup> Based on Schedule 13G/A, filed February 13, 2015 by FMR LLC, based on common shares held on December 31, 2014. The mailing address of this reporting person is 245 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02210.

<sup>5</sup> Based on Schedule 13G/A, filed February 12, 2015 by Wellington Management Company, LLP, based on common shares held on December 31, 2014. The mailing address of this reporting person is 280 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210.

<sup>6</sup> Based on Schedule 13G/A, filed February 11, 2015 by The Vanguard Group, based on common shares held on December 31, 2014. The mailing address of this reporting person is 100 Vanguard Blvd, Malvern, PA 19355.

<sup>7</sup> Based on Schedule 13D, filed June 22, 2015 by The Coca-Cola Company and European Refreshments, based on common shares held on June 22, 2015 for which they have shared beneficial ownership. The mailing address of The Coca-Cola Company is One Coca-Cola Plaza, Atlanta, Georgia 30313. The mailing address of European Refreshments is Southgate, Dublin Road, Drogheda, County Meath, Ireland.

<sup>8</sup> Includes 983,464 common shares owned by Mr. Sacks; 1,881,856 shares beneficially held by Brandon No. 1 because Mr. Sacks is one of Brandon No. 1's general partners; 9,815,648 shares beneficially held by Brandon No. 2 because Mr. Sacks is one of Brandon No. 2's general partners; 34,924 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IV, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings IV's general partners; 71,428 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings V, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings V's general partners; 107,900 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VI, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings VI's general partners; 40,072 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VII, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings VII's general partners; 189,528 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; 151,148 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IX, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings IX's general partners; 83,306 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings X, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings X's general partners; 168,414 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XI, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XI's general partners; 153,534 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XII, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XII's general partners; 727,354 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XIII, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XIII's general partners; 2,000,000 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XIV, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XIV's general partners; 287,736 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XV's general partners; 77,121 shares beneficially held by the Rodney C. Sacks 2009 GRAT #2 because Mr. Sacks is the trustee of the Rodney C. Sacks 2009 GRAT #2; 35,162 shares beneficially held by the RCS Direct 2010 GRAT because Mr. Sacks is the trustee of the RCS Direct 2010 GRAT; and 1,612 shares beneficially held by the RCS Direct 2010 GRAT #2 because Mr. Sacks is the trustee of the RCS Direct 2010 GRAT #2. Also includes options presently exercisable to purchase 960,000 common shares, exercisable at \$8.44 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated November 11, 2005 between the Company and Mr. Sacks; options presently exercisable to purchase 18,912 common shares, exercisable at \$15.86 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June 2, 2008 between the Company and Mr. Sacks; options presently exercisable to purchase 100,000 common shares, exercisable at \$17.82 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated December 1, 2009 between the Company and Mr. Sacks; options presently exercisable to purchase 140,000 common shares, exercisable at \$53.96 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June

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3, 2013 between the Company and Mr. Sacks (of which options to purchase 70,000 common shares are currently held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P.); and options presently exercisable to purchase 70,000 common shares, exercisable at \$70.06 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated March 14, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Sacks. On January 31, 2014, Mr. Sacks pledged 1,000,000 common shares.

Mr. Sacks disclaims beneficial ownership of all shares deemed beneficially owned by him hereunder except (i) 983,464 common shares; (ii) 1,288,912 shares presently exercisable under the stock option agreements; (iii) 349 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IV, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings V; L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings V; L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings V; L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings V; L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings V; L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings VI; general partners; (v) 1,079 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VI. L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings VI; general partners; (vi) 401 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VII's general partners; (vii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings VII's general partners; (vii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; (vii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; (viii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; (viii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; (viii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; (viii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; (viii) 1,511 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IX, L.P. because

Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings IX's general partners; (ix) 833 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings X, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings X's general partners; (x) 1,684 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XI, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XI's general partners; (xi) 1,535 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XII, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XII's general partners; (xii) 7,274 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XII, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XII's general partners; (xii) 20,000 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XIV's general partners; and (xiv) 2,877 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Sacks is one of Hilrod Holdings XV's general partners.

<sup>9</sup> Includes 954,662 common shares owned by Mr. Schlosberg; 1,881,856 shares beneficially held by Brandon No. 1 because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Brandon No. 1's general partners; 9,815,648 shares beneficially held by Brandon No. 2 because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Brandon No. 2's general partners; 34,924 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings IV's general partners; 71,428 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings V, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings V's general partners; 107,900 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VI, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings VI's general partners; 40,072 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VII, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings VII's general partners; 189,528 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings VIII's general partners; 151,148 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IX, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings IX's general partners; 83,306 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings X, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings X's general partners; 168,414 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XI, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XI's general partners; 153,534 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XII, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XII's general partners; 727,354 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XIII, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XIII's general partners; 2,000,000 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XIV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XIV's general partners; 287,736 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XV's general partners; 30,068 shares beneficially held by the Rodney C. Sacks 2008 GRAT #2 because Mr. Schlosberg is the co-trustee of the Rodney C. Sacks 2008 GRAT #2; and 68,438 shares beneficially held by the RCS Direct 2011 GRAT because Mr. Schlosberg is the trustee of the RCS Direct 2011 GRAT. Also includes options presently exercisable to purchase 960,000 common shares, exercisable at \$8.44 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated November 11, 2005 between the Company and Mr. Schlosberg; options presently exercisable to purchase 18,912 common shares, exercisable at \$15.86 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June 2, 2008 between the Company and Mr. Schlosberg; options presently exercisable to purchase 100,000 common shares, exercisable at \$17.82 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated December 1, 2009 between the Company and Mr. Schlosberg; options presently exercisable 140,000 common shares, exercisable at \$53.96 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June 3, 2013 between the Company and Mr. Schlosberg (of which options to purchase 70,000 common shares are currently held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P.); and options presently exercisable to purchase 70,000 common shares, exercisable at \$70.06 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated March 14, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Schlosberg. On January 31, 2014, Mr. Schlosberg pledged 1,000,000 common shares.

Mr. Schlosberg disclaims beneficial ownership of all shares deemed beneficially owned by him hereunder except (i) 954,662 common shares; (ii) 1,288,912 shares presently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days under the stock option agreements; (iii) 349 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings IV's general partners; (iv) 714 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings V, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings V's

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general partners; (v) 1,079 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VI, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings VI's general partners; (vi) 401 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VII, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings VII's general partners; (vii) 1,895 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings VIII, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings VII's general partners; (vii) 1,511 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings IX, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings IX's general partners; (ix) 833 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XI, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings IX's general partners; (ix) 833 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XI, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings X's general partners; (ix) 1,684 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XI, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XII's general partners; (xii) 7,274 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XIII, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XIII's general partners; (xiii) 20,000 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XIV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XIV's general partners; and (xiv) 2,877 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XIV's general partners; and (xiv) 2,877 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XV's general partners; and (xiv) 2,877 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XV's general partners; and (xiv) 2,877 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XV's general partners; and (xiv) 2,877 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosberg is one of Hilrod Holdings XV's general partners; and (xiv) 2,877 shares beneficially held by Hilrod Holdings XV, L.P. because Mr. Schlosb

<sup>10</sup> Includes 263,936 common shares owned by Mr. Hall; options presently exercisable to purchase 80,000 common shares, exercisable at \$17.82 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated December 1, 2009 between the Company and Mr. Hall; options presently exercisable to purchase 20,000 common shares, exercisable at \$26.26 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated December 1, 2010 between the Company and Mr. Hall; options presently exercisable to purchase 15,000 common shares, exercisable at \$47.13 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated March 14, 2013 between the Company and Mr. Hall; and options presently exercisable to purchase 3,000 common shares, exercisable at \$70.06 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated March 14, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Hall.

<sup>11</sup> Includes options presently exercisable to purchase 8,000 common shares, exercisable at \$15.86 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June 2, 2008 between the Company and Mr. Kelly; options presently exercisable to purchase 8,000 common shares, exercisable at \$18.07 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June 1, 2009 between the Company and Mr. Kelly; options presently exercisable at \$17.82 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated December 1, 2009 between the Company and Mr. Kelly; options presently exercisable to purchase 8,000 common shares, exercisable at \$26.26 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated December 1, 2010 between the Company and Mr. Kelly; options presently exercisable to purchase 3,750 common shares, exercisable at \$47.13 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated March 14, 2013 between the Company and Mr. Kelly; and options presently exercisable to purchase 1,000 common shares, exercisable at \$70.06 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated March 14, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Kelly.

<sup>12</sup> Includes 15,300 common shares owned by Mr. Selati; and 2,101 restricted stock units granted pursuant to a restricted stock unit agreement dated June 2, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Selati.

<sup>13</sup>Includes 3,198 common shares owned by Mr. Epstein; 8,000 shares beneficially held by Shoreland Investments because Mr. Epstein is one of Shoreland Investment's general partners; and 2,101 restricted stock units granted pursuant to a restricted stock unit agreement dated June 2, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Epstein.

<sup>14</sup> Includes 12,863 common shares owned by Mr. Taber; options presently exercisable to purchase 38,400 common shares, exercisable at \$8.44 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated November 11, 2005 between the Company and Mr. Taber; options presently exercisable to purchase 4,334 common shares, exercisable at \$19.20 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June 9, 2010 between the Company and Mr. Taber; options presently exercisable to purchase 2,590 common shares, exercisable at \$34.06 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated May 18, 2011 between the Company and Mr. Taber; and 2,101 restricted stock units granted pursuant to a restricted stock unit agreement dated June 2, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Taber.

<sup>15</sup> Includes 4,863 common shares owned by Mr. Polk; options presently exercisable to purchase 4,334 common shares, exercisable at \$19.20 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated June 9, 2010 between the Company and Mr. Polk; options presently exercisable to purchase 2,590 common shares, exercisable at \$34.06 per share, granted pursuant to a stock option agreement dated May 18, 2011 between the Company and Mr. Polk; and 2,101 restricted stock units granted pursuant to a restricted stock unit agreement dated June 2, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Polk.

<sup>16</sup> Includes 18,387 common shares owned by Mr. Vidergauz; and 2,101 restricted stock units granted pursuant to a restricted stock unit agreement dated June 2, 2014 between the Company and Mr. Vidergauz.

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## SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") requires the Company's directors, executive officers, and persons who own more than ten percent of a registered class of the Company's equity securities to file by specific dates with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of equity securities of the Company. Directors, executive officers, and greater than ten percent stockholders are required by SEC regulations to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) forms that they file. The Company is required to report in this proxy statement any failure of its directors, executive officers and greater than ten percent stockholders to file by the relevant due date any of these reports during the most recent fiscal year or prior fiscal years.

To the Company's knowledge, based solely on review of copies of such reports furnished to the Company during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to the Company's directors, executive officers and greater than ten percent stockholders were complied with.

## DEADLINES FOR RECEIPT OF STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

Stockholders may present a proper proposal for consideration at the 2016 annual meeting of stockholders by submitting their proposal in writing to the Office of the Secretary of the Company at the Company's principal executive offices in a timely manner.

For stockholders who wish to present a proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement and for consideration at the 2016 annual meeting, pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act, the proposal must be delivered to the Office of the Secretary at the Company's principal executive offices no later than February 25, 2016. Stockholder proposals must otherwise comply with the requirements of Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act.

For stockholders who wish to present a proposal for nominations or other business for consideration at the 2016 annual meeting, but who do not intend for the proposal to be included in our proxy statement, pursuant to the advance notice provisions contained in our by-laws, the proposal must be delivered to the Office of the Secretary at the Company's principal executive offices no earlier than April 9, 2016 and no later than May 9, 2016, provided, however, that in the event that the date of the 2016 annual meeting is more than thirty days before or more than seventy days after the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting, notice by the stockholder must be so delivered no earlier than the close of business on the one hundred twentieth day prior to the 2016 annual meeting and no later than the close of business on the later of the ninetieth day prior to the 2016 annual meeting or the tenth day following the day on which public announcement of the date of the 2016 annual meeting is first made by the Company.

It is presently intended that the 2016 annual meeting will be held in June 2016. Because the date of the 2016 annual meeting of stockholders will be more than 30 days before the anniversary date of the Company's 2015 Annual Meeting, the Company will inform stockholders of the date of the 2016 annual meeting and earlier notification deadlines pursuant to Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act and our by-laws.

Proposals should be sent to the Office of the Secretary by mail to Monster Beverage Corporation, 1 Monster Way, Corona, California, 92879.

### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

## Nominees

The Board is currently comprised of ten members, each of whom is a director nominee to be elected at the Annual Meeting. Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy holders will vote the proxies received by them for the Company's ten nominees named below. In the event that any nominee is unable or declines to serve as a director at the time of the Annual Meeting, the proxies will be voted for any nominee designated by the present Board to fill the vacancy. The Company is not aware of any nominee who will be unable or expects to decline to serve as a director. The term of office of each person elected as a director will continue until the 2016 annual meeting or until a successor has been elected and qualified.

The Board has a director resignation policy. This policy provides that, in an uncontested election, any incumbent director nominee who receives a greater number of votes "WITHHELD" from his or her election than votes "FOR" his or her election must promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board following certification of the election results. The Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Nominating Committee") will review the circumstances surrounding the election and recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject the resignation. The Board must act on the tendered resignation. If such resignation is rejected, the Board must publicly disclose its decision, together with the rationale supporting its decision, within 90 days after certification of the election results. A copy of the director resignation policy is available on our website at <a href="http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm">http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm</a>.

The names of the nominees, and certain biographical information about them, are set forth below.

Name	Age	Position
Rodney C. Sacks <sup>1</sup>	65	Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer
Hilton H. Schlosberg <sup>1</sup>	62	Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Secretary
Mark J. Hall	59	Director, Chief Marketing Officer
Norman C. Epstein <sup>2,3,4</sup>	74	Director
Gary P. Fayard	63	Director
Benjamin M. Polk	64	Director
Sydney Selati <sup>2,3,4</sup>	76	Director
Harold C. Taber, Jr. <sup>2,3,4</sup>	76	Director
Kathy N. Waller	57	Director
Mark S. Vidergauz <sup>3,5</sup>	61	Director

<sup>1</sup> Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

<sup>2</sup> Member of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors.

<sup>3</sup> Member of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors.

<sup>4</sup> Member of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors.

<sup>5</sup> Lead Independent Director.

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Each of our directors brings extensive management and leadership experience gained through their service in our industry and other diverse businesses. In these roles, they have assumed day-to-day leadership or other senior leadership responsibilities. In addition, most current directors bring board experience acquired by either significant experience on other boards or long service on our Board of Directors that broadens their knowledge of board policies and processes, rules and regulations, issues and solutions. The Nominating Committee's process for selecting and nominating qualified director candidates is described under the section entitled "Nominating Committee." In the paragraphs below, we describe specific individual qualifications and skills of our directors that contribute to the overall effectiveness of our Board of Directors and its committees.

**Rodney C. Sacks**—Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company, Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company from November 1990 to the present. Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors (the "Executive Committee") since October 1992. Chairman of the Board of Directors and a Director of Monster Energy Company ("MEC") from June 1992 to the present. Mr. Sacks has led the Company for over 25 years and has extensive experience in the food and beverage industry. Mr. Sacks has detailed knowledge and valuable perspective and insights regarding our business and has responsibility for development and implementation of our business strategy.

*Hilton H. Schlosberg*—Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company, President, Chief Operating Officer, Secretary, and a Director of the Company from November 1990 to the present. Chief Financial Officer of the Company since

July 1996. Member of the Executive Committee since October 1992. Vice Chairman, Secretary and a Director of MEC from July 1992 to the present. Mr. Schlosberg has held senior leadership positions with the Company for over 25 years, has been the Company's CFO for 19 years and has extensive experience in the food and beverage industry. Mr. Schlosberg has detailed knowledge and valuable perspective and insights regarding our business and has responsibility for development and implementation of our business strategy. Mr. Schlosberg has a high level of financial literacy and his day-to-day supervision of business operations brings valuable insight to the board.

*Mark J. Hall*—Director of the Company and Chief Marketing Officer of MEC since January 2015. Chief Brand Officer of MEC from January 2014 to December 2014, and President of the Monster Beverage Division from January 2007 to December 2013. Mr. Hall joined MEC in 1997 as a Senior Vice President. Prior to joining MEC, Mr. Hall was employed by the Arizona Beverage Co. as Vice President of Sales, where he was responsible for sales and distribution of products through a national network of beer distributors and soft drink bottlers in the United States. Mr. Hall has detailed knowledge and valuable perspective and insights regarding both our business and the beverage business in general.

*Norman C. Epstein*—Director of the Company and member of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (the "Compensation Committee") since June 1992, member of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors (the "Nominating Committee") since September 2004 and member of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors (the "Audit Committee") since September 1997. Mr. Epstein has served as the Chairman of the Compensation Committee September 1997 and Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee since February 27, 2015. Mr. Epstein served as Chairman of the Audit Committee from September 1997 to February 27, 2015. Director of MEC since July 1992. Managing Director of Cheval Property Finance PLC, a mortgage finance company based in London, England from 1997 to 2006. Director

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of Clermont Consultants UK Ltd. from 1997 to April 2013. Director of Spring Finance UK, a UK mortgage lender from July 2012 to the present. Partner with Moore Stephens, an international accounting firm, from 1974 to December 1996 (senior partner beginning in 1989 and the managing partner of Moore Stephens, New York from 1993 until 1995). Mr. Epstein has a strong background in accounting and finance as well as substantial experience in public company accounting. Mr. Epstein has substantial experience serving on boards, both the Company's and others, and has experience in other industries, which allows him to bring additional perspective to the board. Mr. Epstein is a Chartered Accountant (UK).

*Gary P. Fayard*—Director of the Company since June 2015. Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of The Coca-Cola Company from February 2003 to April 2014. Mr. Fayard joined The Coca-Cola Company in 1994, and in July 1994, he was elected Vice President and Controller, a position he held until December 1999 when he was elected Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Fayard has also served on the board of directors of Coca-Cola FEMSA, S.A.B. de C.V., the largest bottler in the world of Coca-Cola trademark beverages by unit case volume operating in territories in Mexico, Central and South America and the Philippines, from 2004 to the present and on the board of directors of Genuine Parts Company from 2014 to the present. Mr. Fayard has a strong background in accounting and finance as well as substantial business and leadership experience in the beverage industry.

**Benjamin M. Polk**—Director of the Company since November 1990. Assistant Secretary of MEC since October 1992 and a Director of MEC since July 1992. Partner with Veritas Capital, a private equity firm, since July 2011. Director of Aeroflex Holding Corp. from November 2012 to September 2014. Director of CPI International, Inc. from October 2012 to the present. Director of Truven Health Analytics, Inc. from October 2012 to the present. Mr. Polk was a partner with the law firm of Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP from May 2004 to July 2011 and prior to that, a partner with the law firm of Winston & Strawn LLP, where Mr. Polk practiced law with that firm and its predecessor firm, from August 1976 to May 2004. Mr. Polk has gained detailed knowledge of the Company during his service as a director since 1990 and as outside counsel from 1990 to July 2011. Mr. Polk has extensive experience in matters relating to mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance.

*Sydney Selati*—Director of the Company and member of the Audit Committee since September 2004, member of the Compensation Committee since March 2007 and member of the Nominating Committee since April 2009. Mr. Selati was named Chairman of the Audit Committee on February 27, 2015. Mr. Selati has been a Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee of the San Diego Jewish Community Foundation since July 2010. Mr. Selati was a director of Barbeques Galore Ltd. from 1997 to 2005 and was President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Galore Group (U.S.A.), Inc. from 1988 to 2005. Mr. Selati was president of Sussex Group Limited from 1984 to 1988. Mr. Selati has extensive experience as a chief executive and board member of companies in other industries, which allows him to bring additional perspective to the board. Mr. Selati is a Chartered Accountant (South Africa).

*Harold C. Taber, Jr.*—Director of the Company since July 1992, member of the Audit Committee since April 2000, member of the Compensation Committee since April 2009 and member of the Nominating Committee since September 2004. Mr. Taber was appointed by the Board of Directors to be Chairman of the Nominating Committee in April 2009. Mr. Taber worked for the TCCC Bottling Company of Los Angeles in various positions, including Group President, West Region, from 1976 to 1987. President and Chief Executive Officer of MEC from July 1992 to June 1997. Consultant for The Joseph Company from October 1997 to March 1999 and for Costa Macaroni Manufacturing Company from July 2000 to January 2002. Executive

Assistant to the Dean at the Biola University School of Business from July 2002 to January 2015. Mr. Taber has extensive knowledge of the Company's historical and current operations, and brings leadership and management skills to the board.

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*Kathy N. Waller*—Director of the Company since June 2015. Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of The Coca-Cola Company, from April 2014 to the present. Ms. Waller joined The Coca-Cola Company in 1987 as a senior accountant in the Accounting Research Department and has served in a number of accounting and finance roles of increasing responsibility. From July 2004 to August 2009, Ms. Waller served as Chief of Internal Audit. In December 2005, she was elected Vice President of The Coca-Cola Company, and in August 2009, she was elected Controller. In August 2013, she became Vice President, Finance and Controller of The Coca-Cola Company, assuming additional responsibilities for corporate treasury, corporate tax and finance capabilities. Ms. Waller has a strong background in accounting and finance as well as substantial business and leadership experience in the beverage industry.

*Mark S. Vidergauz*—Director of the Company and member of the Compensation Committee since June 1998, member of the Audit Committee from April 2000 through May 2004, and Lead Independent Director since March 2014. Chief Executive Officer of The Sage Group LLC, an investment banking firm, from April 2000 to the present. The Sage Group LLC provides merger, acquisition and capital formation advisory services to a wide range of companies in the consumer sector. Managing Director at the Los Angeles office of ING Barings LLC, a diversified financial service institution headquartered in the Netherlands, from April 1995 to April 2000. Mr. Vidergauz brings strong merger and acquisition, corporate finance, corporate governance and leadership experience to the board.

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE NOMINEES FOR DIRECTOR SET FORTH ABOVE.

#### MANAGEMENT

## **Board Meetings and Committees; Annual Meeting Attendance**

The Board is comprised of Rodney C. Sacks, Hilton H. Schlosberg, Mark J. Hall, Norman C. Epstein, Gary P. Fayard (since June 2015), Benjamin M. Polk, Sydney Selati, Harold C. Taber, Jr., Kathy N. Waller (since June 2015) and Mark S. Vidergauz. The Board held seven meetings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. One director was unable to attend the annual meeting held on June 2, 2014 and four directors were unable to attend one meeting during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. The Board has determined that Messrs. Epstein, Fayard, Polk, Selati, Taber and Vidergauz are independent, as that term is defined in the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules and SEC regulations. Our independent directors met in executive session three times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. The Board does not have a policy requiring the attendance by the directors at the Annual Meeting.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Audit Committee was comprised of Norman C. Epstein (Chairman until February 27, 2015), Harold C. Taber, Jr. and Sydney Selati (Chairman since February 27, 2015), The Board of Directors has adopted а written charter for the Audit Committee. which is available on our website at http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm. The Audit Committee held five meetings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. The Audit Committee last met in May 2015 in connection with the review of the Company's financial statements for the quarter ended March 31, 2015. See "Audit Committee" below for more information.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Compensation Committee was comprised of Norman C. Epstein (Chairman), Mark S. Vidergauz, Sydney Selati and Harold C. Taber. The Compensation Committee held four meetings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. Under the Monster Beverage Corporation 2011 Omnibus Incentive Plan, (the "2011 Incentive Plan"), the Compensation

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Committee has sole and exclusive authority to grant equity awards to all employees and consultants who are not new hires and to all new hires who are subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act. The Compensation Committee and the Executive Committee each independently has the authority to grant awards for new hires and promotions for employees who are not Section 16 employees. The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Compensation Committee, which is available on our website at <a href="http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm">http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm</a>. The Board has adopted written Equity Grant Procedures. See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Compensation Program Components - Long-Term Incentive Program" and "Compensation Committee" below for more information.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Nominating Committee was comprised of Harold C. Taber, Jr. (Chairman), Norman C. Epstein and Sydney Selati. The Board has adopted a written charter for the Nominating Committee, which

is available on our website at <u>http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm</u>. The Nominating Committee held one meeting during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. See "Nominating Committee" below for more information.

The Executive Committee, comprised of Rodney C. Sacks and Hilton H. Schlosberg, held seven formal meetings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. The Executive Committee manages and directs the business of the Company between meetings of the Board. Under the 2011 Incentive Plan, each of the Compensation Committee and the Executive Committee of the Board independently has the authority to grant awards for new hires and promotions for employees who are not Section 16 employees. Awards granted by the Executive Committee are not subject to approval or ratification by the Board or the Compensation Committee (see "Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Compensation Program Components - Long-Term Incentive Program" below for more information).

## **Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Policy**

The Board has adopted stock ownership guidelines regarding stock ownership by non-employee Board members. As amended, these guidelines provide that each non-employee director of the Company be required to hold at all times a minimum of 3,000 shares of Common Stock. During 2014, all non-employee directors held at least the minimum shares of Common Stock at all times.

### **Director Resignation Policy**

The Board has a director resignation policy. This policy provides that, in an uncontested election, any incumbent director nominee who receives a greater number of votes "WITHHELD" from his or her election than votes "FOR" his or her election must promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board following certification of the election results. The Nominating Committee will review the circumstances surrounding the election and recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject the resignation. The Board must act on the tendered resignation. If such resignation is rejected, the Board must publicly disclose its decision, together with the rationale supporting its decision, within 90 days after certification of the election results. A copy of the director resignation policy is available on our website at <a href="http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm">http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm</a>.

## **Board Leadership Structure**

The Board of Directors does not have a policy on whether or not the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board should be separate and, if they are to be separate, whether the Chairman of the Board should be selected from the non-employee directors or be an employee. The Board of Directors

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believes that it should be free to make a choice from time to time in any manner that is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders. The Board believes that the Company's current Chief Executive Officer is best situated to serve as Chairman of the Board. Rodney C. Sacks has led the Company for over 25 years and therefore is highly knowledgeable with respect to the Company's business, operations and industry. Mr. Sacks is well positioned to identify strategic priorities and lead the Board's consideration and analysis of such priorities. The Board believes that the combined role of Chairman and CEO promotes consistency and efficiency in the development and execution of the Company's business strategy.

## Lead Independent Director

In March 2014, the independent directors of the Board approved a Lead Independent Director Charter. Under the Lead Independent Director Charter, if the offices of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer are held by the same person, the independent members of the Board of Directors will annually elect with a majority vote an independent director to serve in a lead capacity. Although elected annually, the Lead Independent Director is generally expected to serve for more than one year. The Lead Independent Director may be removed or replaced at any time with or without cause by a majority vote of the independent members of the Board.

Mr. Vidergauz is currently the Lead Independent Director. In this capacity, Mr. Vidergauz is, among other things, responsible for leading executive sessions of the independent directors and serving as the principal liaison between the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the independent directors. A copy of the Lead Independent Director Charter is available on our website at <a href="http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm">http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm</a>.

## The Board's Role in Risk Oversight

The Board of Directors plays an active role in overseeing and managing the Company's risks. The full Board and its Executive Committee regularly review the Company's results, performance, operations, competitive position, business strategy, liquidity, capital resources, product distribution and development, material contingencies and senior personnel, as well as the risks associated with each of these matters. The Board implements its risk oversight function both as a whole and through its standing committees. Certain of the work is delegated to committees, which meet regularly and report back to the full Board. The Compensation Committee oversees management of risks related to the Company's compensation policies and practices.

Committee oversees management of risks related to financial reporting and internal controls. The full Board also discusses risk throughout the year during meetings in relation to specific proposed actions. These processes are designed to ensure that risks are taken knowingly and purposefully. The Board believes that its role in oversight of risk management (as well as the role of the Compensation and Audit Committees) has not adversely affected its leadership structure or results of operations.

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The names and ages of our Named Executive Officers, whom we refer to as our NEOs, and certain biographical information about them, are set forth on page 11 and below.

Name	Age	Position
Rodney C. Sacks	65	Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer
Hilton H. Schlosberg	62	Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Secretary
Mark J. Hall	59	Director, Chief Marketing Officer of MEC
Thomas J. Kelly	61	Senior Vice President Finance

<u>**Thomas J. Kelly**</u> – Senior Vice President Finance and/or Controller and Secretary of MEC since 1992. Prior to joining MEC, Mr. Kelly served as controller for California Copackers Corporation. Mr. Kelly is a Certified Public Accountant (inactive) and has worked in the beverage business for over 29 years.

## **COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

#### **Compensation Philosophy**

Our executive compensation program for our NEOs, listed in the summary compensation table on the following pages, is designed to motivate our executive talent, to reward those individuals fairly over time for achieving performance goals, to retain those individuals who continue to perform at or above the levels that are deemed essential to ensure our long-term success and growth, as well as to attract individuals with the skills necessary for us to achieve our business plan. The program is designed to reinforce ownership and overall entrepreneurialism and to link rewards to measurable corporate and qualitative individual performance. In applying these principles we seek to integrate compensation programs with our short- and long-term strategic plans and to align the interests of our NEOs with the long-term interests of our stockholders. The Compensation Committee evaluates risks and rewards associated with the Company's overall compensation philosophy and structure and does not believe the program promotes excessive risk-taking.

With respect to specific elements of compensation, base salary is a fixed amount to secure executive service, the annual cash bonus opportunity is designed to incentivize and reward achievement of short-term financial and operating performance, and equity grants that vest over multi-year periods are designed to incentivize, retain and provide long-term perspective.

#### Setting Executive Compensation

The compensation programs for our NEOs are generally administered by or under the direction of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (in the case of Rodney Sacks, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Hilton Schlosberg, the Vice Chairman and President) and the Executive Committee (in the case of the other NEOs). The compensation program is reviewed annually to ensure that remuneration levels and benefits are competitive and reasonable and continue to achieve the goals set forth in our compensation philosophy.

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For 2014 compensation decisions, the Compensation Committee retained the independent compensation consulting firm, Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. ("FWC"), to provide competitive market data and make recommendations to the Board with respect to compensation for outside directors as well as compensation for the NEOs. FWC reports directly to the Compensation Committee and did not perform any other services for the Company in 2014. The Compensation Committee determined that the services provided by FWC did not raise any conflicts of interest.

The Compensation Committee considers relevant market pay practices and performance when setting executive compensation. We do not set compensation at a targeted percentage level relative to the market, but we seek to provide salary, incentive compensation opportunities and employee benefits that are generally competitive within the consumer products industry, the food and beverage industry and within the labor markets in which we participate. We gather market compensation and performance data to provide context, but also consider performance, as well as our recruiting and internal retention experience when making executive compensation decisions.

The Compensation Committee consulted with FWC in late 2013 to conduct a 2014 competitive market analysis using a comparison group of similarly sized, high performing U.S. food and beverage and consumer products companies. The goal of the peer group was to identify relevant industry competitors using objective factors, which included at the time:

•	Beam, Inc	•	The Hain Celestial Group. Inc.
•	Boston Beer Co. Inc.	•	The J.M. Smucker Company
•	Brown-Forman Corporation	•	Mead Johnson Nutrition Company
•	Campbell Soup Company	•	Michael Kors Holdings Limited
•	Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.	•	Molson Coors Brewing Company
•	Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc.	•	Nu Skin Enterprises Inc.
•	Constellation Brands Inc.	•	Snyder's-Lance, Inc.
•	Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Inc.	•	Under Armour, Inc.
•	Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Inc.	•	The Whitewave Foods Company

The peer group established for the 2014 market analysis was reviewed in January 2015 by FWC, resulting in the removal of three companies due to their acquisition or because they were outside of the objective size criteria of revenue between \$1.0 billion and \$11.0 billion, and a market cap between \$2.5 billion and \$50.0 billion. Three larger market cap companies with well-known consumer brands were added because our market cap at the end of 2014 was the second highest of the peer group. The peer group changes made in the January 2015 review were as follows:

- · Removed Beam, Inc. due to its acquisition and Boston Beer Co. Inc. and Snyder's-Lance, Inc. for being undersized.
- · Added The Estee Lauder Companies, Inc., The Hershey Company and Ralph Lauren Corporation as high-value brands.

FWC's 2014 market analysis showed that the competitive positioning for Mr. Sacks' and Mr. Schlosberg's 2014 salary and annual bonus, in the aggregate, was considerably below the peer group median, and total compensation, including grant date fair value of their long-term incentive compensation, was between the median and the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for both of the respective peer groups established in late 2013 and early 2015. The FWC 2014 study also noted that the Company was at or above the median in three-year

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revenue and earnings per share ("EPS") growth, return on capital, and both one- and three-year Total Shareholder Return ("TSR"). The early 2015 study showed the Company closer to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile in these performance measures. The peer group data is used by us as only one reference point taken into account in making compensation decisions. However, we generally believe that reviewing and analyzing this information is an important component of our executive compensation decision-making process.

The Company historically did not grant equity awards annually to Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg, but instead provided equity awards periodically to align compensation with performance on a discretionary basis. Equity awards were granted to Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg in 2013 to reward for and align with the Company's strong performance in 2011 and 2012, but there were no equity awards granted in 2012. Beginning in 2014, the Company has moved to an annual grant philosophy to overlap vesting and provide a portfolio of exercise prices for equity awards. The 2014 option awards granted to Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg were made under this philosophy and also as a reward for, and to align with, the Company's continued strong performance in 2013. Recent equity awards granted to Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg vest over a three-year period.

Compensation decisions for Mr. Kelly and Mr. Hall were discretionary and not based on specific performance targets. However, the Company considered FWC's competitive market analysis for guidance in determining the total compensation for Mr. Kelly and Mr. Hall. Recent equity awards granted to Mr. Kelly typically vest over a three- to five-year period and recent equity awards granted to Mr. Hall typically vest over a five-year period.

We view all components of compensation as related but distinct. We determine the appropriate level for each compensation component, based in part, but not exclusively, on competitive benchmarks gathered through our recruiting and retention experience, our review of internal comparatives as well as other considerations we deem relevant, such as rewarding for individual and corporate performance. We believe that equity awards effectively reward for long-term performance and are an important compensation-related motivator to attract and retain executives through the vesting periods and through sharing in the value they create. Except as described herein, neither our Compensation Committee nor our Executive Committee have adopted any formal or informal policies or guidelines for allocating compensation between short-term and long-term and current compensation between cash and non-cash compensation. However, our Compensation Committee and Executive Committee's respective philosophy is that

a greater percentage of our NEOs' compensation should be rewarded in equity rather than cash. Compensation packages for each of our NEOs are tailored to each individual NEO's circumstances by the Compensation Committee and/or the Executive Committee, as appropriate, and are largely based on subjective evaluations of overall and individual performance. Each element of compensation is determined differently for each individual NEO based on a variety of facts and circumstances applicable at the time and to that specific NEO.

Our Compensation Committee and Executive Committee's current intent is to perform an annual strategic review of compensation paid to our NEOs to determine whether they have provided adequate incentives and motivation to such NEOs, and whether they adequately compensate our NEOs relative to comparable officers in other companies with which we compete for executives. For compensation decisions, including decisions regarding the grant of equity compensation relating to NEOs, other than our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and our Vice Chairman and President, the Compensation Committee specifically considers recommendations from the Executive Committee.

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#### **Results of 2014 Advisory Vote to Approve Executive Compensation**

At our 2014 annual meeting of Stockholders, 97.8% of the votes cast were in favor of our advisory resolution regarding the compensation of our NEOs. The Compensation Committee believes this affirms the stockholders' support of the Company's pay-for-performance philosophy with respect to executive compensation. The Compensation Committee will continue to consider the results of future advisory votes on executive compensation.

#### **Compensation Program Components**

Our NEO compensation currently has three primary components: base compensation or salary, annual cash bonus, and equity awards granted pursuant to our 2011 Incentive Plan.

Each of the primary components of NEO compensation is discussed below.

#### **Base Salary**

Base salaries for our NEOs are established based on the scope of their individual responsibilities, taking into account competitive market compensation paid by other companies for individuals in similar positions. We fix NEO base compensation at levels which we believe enable us to retain individuals in a competitive environment (but without any fixed formula) and reward performance at an acceptable level based upon contributions to our overall business goals. We may also utilize input on compensation from compensation consultants, executive search firms and market data when making crucial hiring decisions.

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors determines the base salaries for Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg and the Executive Committee (comprised of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the Vice Chairman and President) determines the base salaries for the other NEOs.

#### **Annual Cash Bonus Opportunity**

We provide incentive compensation to our NEOs in the form of an annual cash bonus based on a qualitative review of individual and company-wide financial and operational performance, consistent with our emphasis on pay-for-performance incentive compensation programs. In determining bonus awards, our Compensation Committee and Executive Committee review various strategic factors such as sales revenues, distribution levels, introduction of new products, corporate partnerships, overall operating performance, contribution margins and/or profitability, which are used as a broad guide of overall performance. We generally utilize annual cash bonuses to reward performance achievements for the time horizon of one year or less.

The actual amount of the annual bonus is determined and paid in the first quarter following a qualitative review of each NEO's individual performance and contribution to our strategic goals during the prior year.

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors determines the annual bonuses for Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg and the Executive Committee (comprised of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the Vice Chairman and President) determines the annual bonuses for the other NEOs.

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We believe that long-term performance is achieved through an ownership culture that encourages superior performance by our NEOs through the use of equity awards. Our equity compensation plans have been established to provide our NEOs with incentives to further align their interests with the interests of the stockholders. Equity compensation to our NEOs generally vests over three to five years. Stock options are our preferred form of long-term incentive compensation because we believe they are simple, tax-deferred, and inherently performance-based with value earned only if the price of our common stock appreciates after the options are granted.

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors reviews and approves equity awards to our NEOs based upon compensation data principally gathered through a market analysis conducted by our retained compensation consultants, our recruiting and retention experience, our qualitative assessment of individual performance, as well as a review of each executive's current long-term incentives and retention considerations.

## **Other Compensation**

Certain NEOs who are parties to employment agreements will continue to be subject to such agreements in their current form based on the terms such agreements, or until such time as the Compensation Committee determines in its discretion that revisions to such employment agreements are recommended. For a summary description of the terms of these agreements, see "Discussion of Summary Compensation Table - Agreements with Named Executive Officers" below. In addition, we intend to continue to maintain our current benefits and perquisites for our NEOs, which include automobile and benefit premiums, among other perquisites. However, the Compensation Committee in its discretion may revise, amend or add to such NEOs benefits and perquisites if it deems it advisable. We believe these benefits and perquisites are currently in line with those provided by comparable companies within the consumer products industry, the food and beverage industry and within the labor markets in which we participate for similarly situated executives, based principally on information gathered through our recruiting and retention experience.

## **Employee Benefit Plans**

Our employees, including our NEOs, are entitled to various employee benefits, which generally include health care plans, flexible spending accounts, life and disability insurance, 401(k) Plan, paid time off, automobile benefits, as well as other allowances.

## 401(k) Plan

Our employees, including our NEOs, may participate in our 401(k) Plan, a defined contribution plan that qualifies under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"). Participating employees may contribute up to statutory limits. We make discretionary matching contributions, and currently contribute 25% of the employee contribution, up to 8% of each employee's earnings on a per pay period basis, which vests at a rate of 20% each year for five years after the first anniversary date.

## Separation and Change in Control Arrangements

Certain of our NEOs, per the terms of their respective employment agreements and/or employment offer letters and/or amendments to conditions of employment and/or equity award agreements, are eligible for certain benefits and/or payments if there is a change in control and/or employment terminates following a change in control, as described under "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control" beginning on page 27.

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We believe these arrangements are an important part of overall compensation and will help to secure the continued employment and dedication of our NEOs prior to or following a change in control, notwithstanding any concern that they may have at such time regarding their own continued employment. In addition, we believe that these arrangements are an important recruitment and retention incentive. These arrangements do not provide for tax gross ups.

## **Tax Implications**

Section 162(m) of the Code imposes a \$1 million limit on the deduction that we may claim in any tax year with respect to compensation paid to any of the NEOs, excluding the principal financial officer. However, the Code allows for certain types of performance-based exemptions to this \$1 million limit, provided that the compensation plan meets certain requirements. Our stock option grants generally comply with the performance-based exemption of Section 162(m). The Compensation Committee, which is comprised solely of "outside directors" as defined for the purposes of Section 162(m) of the Code, believes that stockholder interests are best served if the Compensation Committee's discretion and flexibility in awarding compensation is not restricted, even though some compensation awards may result in non-deductible compensation expenses. Therefore, the Compensation that is not deductible for income tax purposes.

## **Summary Compensation Table**

On August 8, 2005, our Common Stock was split on a two-for-one basis through a 100% stock dividend. On July 7, 2006, our Common Stock was split on a four-for-one basis through a 300% stock dividend. On February 15, 2012, our Common Stock was split on a two-for-one basis through a 100% stock dividend. All share information has been presented to reflect the stock splits.

The Board, in consultation with its legal advisors, reviewed the roles and responsibilities of certain executives and determined who would be deemed an executive officer of the Company. The following table summarizes the total compensation of our NEOs during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, our NEOs were Rodney C. Sacks, Hilton H. Schlosberg, Mark J. Hall and Thomas J. Kelly.

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Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards (\$)(1)	All Other Compensation (\$) (A)	Total (\$)
Rodney C. Sacks	2014	600,000	300,000	-	6,606,390	76,023	7,582,413
Chairman, CEO and	2013	550,000	300,000	-	5,303,844	69,949	6,223,793
Director	2012	475,000	275,000	-	-	48,955	798,955
Hilton H. Schlosberg							
Vice-Chairman, CFO,	2014	600,000	300,000	-	6,606,390	43,189	7,549,579
COO, President,	2013	550,000	300,000	-	5,303,844	43,223	6,197,067
Secretary and Director	2012	475,000	275,000	-	-	41,161	791,161
Mark J. Hall	2014	254,711	200,000	-	943,770	21,477	1,419,958
Chief Marketing	2013	425,000	275,000	-	2,038,830	23,351	2,762,181
Officer and Director	2012	400,000	250,000	-	-	23,483	673,483
Thomas J. Kelly	2014	270,000	100,000	166,950	873,675	20,824	1,431,449
Senior Vice President	2014	250,000	80,000	100,950	305,825	20,024	655,849
		· · · ·	,	211 620	505,625		-
Finance	2012	230,000	70,000	211,620	-	19,526	531,146

(1) The amounts represent the current year grant date fair value for all share-based payment awards computed in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 718 based on the estimated fair value of the options on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes-Merton option pricing formula with the following assumptions:

Name	Date	Dividend Yield	Expected Volatility	Risk-Free Interest Rate	Expected Term
Mr. Sacks	03/14/2014	0%	45.03%	1.55%	6.10 yrs.
Mr. Schlosberg	03/14/2014	0%	45.03%	1.55%	6.10 yrs.
Mr. Hall	03/14/2014	0%	45.03%	1.55%	6.10 yrs.
Mr. Kelly	03/14/2014	0%	39.57%	1.55%	5.47 yrs.
Mr. Kelly	12/01/2014	0%	37.26%	1.52%	5.40 yrs.

## (A) All Other Compensation

Name	Year	Automobile (\$)	401(k) Match (\$)	Benefit Premiums (\$)	Perquisites (\$)	Total (\$)
Rodney C. Sacks	2014 2013 2012	38,710 39,526 28,521	5,200 5,750 5,000	24,274 19,765 12,579	7,839 4,908 2,855	76,023 69,949 48,955
Hilton H. Schlosberg	2014 2013 2012	23,408 23,984 23,514	5,200 5,750 3,913	14,581 13,489 12,962	- - 772	43,189 43,223 41,161
Mark J. Hall	2014 2013 2012	10,159 12,577 12,532	4,077 4,077 3,926	7,241 6,697 7,025	-	21,477 23,351 23,483
Thomas J. Kelly	2014 2013 2012	8,383 8,439 8,141	5,200 4,888 4,360	7,241 6,697 7,025	- -	20,824 20,024 19,526

## **Discussion of Summary Compensation Table**

Agreements with Named Executive Officers:

**Rodney C. Sacks** – On March 18, 2014, we entered into a new employment agreement with Mr. Sacks (the "Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement"), pursuant to which Mr. Sacks continued to render services as our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Under the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement, Mr. Sacks' annual base salary will be reviewed annually and increased at the discretion of our Board. Mr. Sacks is eligible to receive an annual bonus in an amount determined at the discretion of our Board as well as certain fringe benefits. The employment period of this agreement commenced on January 1, 2014 and continues through December 31, 2018, subject to automatic one year renewal periods on each December 31 thereafter, unless notice of intent to not renew is given by either us or Mr. Sacks by June 30, 2018 or any subsequent June 30, as may be applicable. Under the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement, Mgreement is subject to termination (i) upon the death or disability of Mr. Sacks, (ii) voluntarily by Mr. Sacks on 90 days' written notice, (iii) for Cause (as defined therein) by us, or (iv) upon Constructive Termination (as defined therein) by Mr. Sacks. The severance provisions in the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement are discussed in the "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control" section below. Since January 1, 2009, we entered into certain equity compensation agreements with Mr. Sacks as disclosed in the "Grants of Plan-Based Awards" table below.

Hilton H. Schlosberg – On March 18, 2014, we entered into a new employment agreement with Mr. Schlosberg (the "Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement"), pursuant to which Mr. Schlosberg continued to render services as our Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer. Under the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement, Mr. Schlosberg's annual base salary will be reviewed annually and increased at the discretion of our Board. Mr. Schlosberg is eligible to receive an annual bonus in an amount determined at the discretion of our Board as well as certain fringe benefits. The employment period of this agreement commenced on January 1, 2014 and continues through December 31, 2018, subject to automatic one year renewal periods on each December 31 thereafter, unless notice of intent to not renew is given by either us or Mr. Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement is subject to a confidentiality covenant and a six-month post-termination non-competition covenant. The Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement is subject to termination (i) upon the death or disability of Mr. Schlosberg, (ii) voluntarily by Mr. Schlosberg on 90 days' written notice, (iii) for Cause (as defined therein) by us, or (iv) upon Constructive Termination (as defined therein) by Mr. Schlosberg. The severance provisions in the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement are discussed in the "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control" section below. Since January 1, 2009, we entered into certain equity compensation agreements with Mr. Schlosberg as disclosed in the "Grants of Plan-Based Awards" table below.

<u>Mark J. Hall</u> – On October 28, 2013, Mr. Hall entered into an agreement (the "Hall 2013 Agreement") with MEC. Pursuant to the Hall 2013 Agreement, Mr. Hall agreed to serve as a member of the Board for at least one year, effective January 1, 2014. Effective January 1, 2014, Mr. Hall resigned as President of the Monster Beverage Division and was appointed Chief Brand Officer of MEC, for which Mr. Hall received an annual salary of \$250,000. Mr. Hall was eligible to receive an annual bonus in an amount determined at the discretion of our Executive Committee as well as certain fringe benefits. The Hall 2013 Agreement provided for a sabbatical and leave of absence for Mr. Hall from October 28, 2013 through December 31, 2013. Since January 1, 2009, we entered into certain equity compensation agreements with Mr. Hall as disclosed in the "Grants of Plan-Based Awards" table below.

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On March 12, 2015, Mr. Hall entered into a new employment agreement (the "Hall 2015 Agreement") with MEC. The Hall 2015 Agreement confirmed Mr. Hall's position change from Chief Brand Officer to Chief Marketing Officer of Monster Energy on a full-time basis, effective as of January 1, 2015. As Chief Marketing Officer of Monster Energy, Mr. Hall will receive an annual base salary of \$500,000. Mr. Hall is also eligible to receive an annual bonus in an amount to be determined at the discretion of our Executive Committee. The Hall 2015 Agreement provides that Mr. Hall's employment as Chief Marketing Officer of Monster Energy is of an at-will nature, for no specified period of time. Pursuant to the Hall 2015 Agreement, if Mr. Hall's employment with MEC is terminated without cause, Mr. Hall will be entitled to receive three months of severance pay (or severance pay as negotiated between the parties), subject to certain restrictions, as well as all applicable employee benefits of MEC during such three-month period.

**Thomas J. Kelly** – Mr. Kelly's employment is "at will" and thus may be terminated at any time for any or no reason. Effective January 1, 2015, Mr. Kelly's annual base salary is \$300,000. Mr. Kelly is eligible to receive an annual bonus in an amount determined at the discretion of our Executive Committee as well as certain fringe benefits. Since January 1, 2009, we entered into certain equity compensation agreements with Mr. Kelly as disclosed in the "Grants of Plan-Based Awards" table below.

## **Grants of Plan-Based Awards**

The following table summarizes grants of plan-based awards granted to our NEOs during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

Name	Grant Date	All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)	ards: NumberAwards: NumberPrice of OptionValue of Stockhares of Stockof SharesAwardsOption Avards		Stock and Awards	
Rodney C. Sacks	03/14/2014	-	210,000	\$ 70.06	\$	6,606,390
Hilton H. Schlosberg	03/14/2014	-	210,000	\$ 70.06	\$	6,606,390
Mark J. Hall	03/14/2014	-	30,000	\$ 70.06	\$	943,770
Thomas J. Kelly	03/14/2014	-	10,000	\$ 70.06	\$	268,840
Thomas J. Kelly	12/01/2014	-	15,000	\$ 111.30	\$	604,835
Thomas J. Kelly	12/01/2014	1,500	-	\$-	\$	166,950

(1) The amounts represent the current year grant date fair value for all share-based payment awards computed in accordance with ASC 718.

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## **Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End**

The following table summarizes the outstanding equity awards held by our NEOs at December 31, 2014.

				Option Awards			Stock Awards			
		Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexectised Unearned	Option Exercise	Option Exercise Expiration	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Have Not
Name Rodney C. Sacks	Grant Date 03/23/2005	Exercisable 1.446.254	Unexercisable	Options (#)	Price (\$) 3.29375	Date 03/23/2015	Vested (#)	Vested (\$)	Vested (#)	Vested (\$)
Rodney C. Sacks	11/11/2005	960,000		-	8.43500	11/11/2015	-	-	-	-
-	06/02/2008	18,912		-	15.86000	06/02/2018	-			-
-	12/01/2009	10,012		-	17.82000	12/01/2019	-			
-	06/03/2013	70,000	140,000 (	)	53,96000	06/03/2023	_	-	-	
	03/14/2014	-	210,000 (2		70.06000	03/14/2024	-	-	-	-
Hilton H. Schlosberg	03/23/2005	1,446,254	-	-	3.29375	03/23/2015	-	-	-	-
	11/11/2005	960,000	-	-	8.43500	11/11/2015	-	-	-	-
	06/02/2008	18,912	-	-	15.86000	06/02/2018	-	-	-	-
	12/01/2009	100,000	-	-	17.82000	12/01/2019	-	-	-	-
	06/03/2013	70,000	140,000 (1	) -	53.96000	06/03/2023	-	-	-	-
	03/14/2014	-	210,000 (2	) -	70.06000	03/14/2024	-	-	-	-
Mark J. Hall	12/01/2009	80,000	-	-	17.82000	12/01/2019	-	-	-	-
_	12/01/2010	20,000	20,000 (3	-	26.25500	12/01/2020	-	-	-	-
-	09/01/2011	-		-	-	-	10,000 (4)	1,083,500	-	-
	03/14/2013	-	90,000 (5		47.13000	03/14/2023	-	-	-	-
779 X X Z 2	03/14/2014	-	30,000 (6		70.06000	03/14/2024	-	-	-	-
Thomas J. Kelly	06/02/2008	8,000	-	-	15.86000	06/02/2018	-	-	-	-
	06/01/2009 12/01/2009	8,000	-	-	18.06500	06/01/2019	-	-	-	-
	12/01/2009	8,000 8,000	4,000 (2	-	17.82000 26.25500	12/01/2019 12/01/2020	-	-	-	-
-	06/01/2010	8,000	4,000 (.		26.25500	12/01/2020	3,000 (8)	325,050	-	-
	03/14/2013	1,500	13,500 (9		47.13000	03/14/2023	- (8)	325,050	-	-
	03/14/2013	1,300	10,000 (10		70.06000	03/14/2023	-	-		-
	12/01/2014	-	10,000 (10	, .	/0.00000		1,500 (11)	162.525		-
-	12/01/2014	-	15,000 (12		111.30000	12/01/2024		102,323		
1	12/01/2014	-	15,000 (1	· · ·	111.30000	12/01/2024	-	-	-	-

(1) Vest as follows: 70,000 on June 3, 2015; 70,000 on June 3, 2016.

(2) Vest as follows: 70,000 on March 14, 2015; 70,000 on March 14, 2016; 70,000 on March 14, 2017

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(3) Vest as follows: 20,000 on December 1, 2015.

(4) Vest as follows: 5,000 on September 1, 2015; 5,000 on September 1, 2016

(5) Vest as follows: 15,000 on March 14, 2015; 20,000 on March 14, 2016; 25,000 on March 14, 2017; 30,000 on March 14, 2018

(6) Vest as follows: 3,000 on March 14, 2015; 4,500 on March 14, 2016; 6,000 on March 14, 2017; 7,500 on March 14, 2018; 9,000 on March 14, 2019

(7) Vest as follows: 4,000 on December 1, 2015.

(8) Vest as follows: 1,500 on June 1, 2016; 1,500 on June 1, 2017

(9) Vest as follows: 2,250 on March 14, 2015; 3,000 on March 14, 2016; 3,750 on March 14, 2017; 4,500 on March 14, 2018

(10) Vest as follows: 1,000 on March 14, 2015; 1,500 on March 14, 2016; 2,000 on March 14, 2017; 2,500 on March 14, 2018; 3,000 on March 14, 2019

(11) Vest as follows: 500 on December 1, 2015; 500 on December 1, 2016; 500 on December 1, 2017

(12) Vest as follows: 1,500 on December 1, 2015; 2,250 on December 1, 2016; 3,000 on December 1, 2017; 3,750 on December 1, 2018; 4,500 on December 1, 2019

#### **Options Exercised and Stock Vested**

The following table summarizes exercise of stock options and stock vested by our NEOs during the Company's fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

	Option A	wards	Stock Awards		
			Number of		
	Number of		Shares		
	Shares Acquired	Value Realized	Acquired on	Value Realized on	
Name	on Exercise (#)	on Exercise (\$)	Vesting (#)	Vesting (\$)	
Rodney C. Sacks	-	-	87,000	7,809,990	
Hilton H. Schlosberg	-	-	87,000	7,809,990	
Mark J. Hall	110,000	7,452,347	21,668	1,806,642	
Thomas J. Kelly	-	-	-	-	

## **Pension Benefits**

We do not maintain or make contributions to a defined benefit plan for any of our NEOs.

## **Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation**

None of our NEOs participated or have account balances in non-qualified defined contribution plans or other deferred compensation plans maintained by us. The Compensation Committee may elect to provide our NEOs or other employees with non-qualified defined contribution or deferred compensation benefits should they deem such benefits appropriate.

## **Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control**

We have entered into certain agreements and maintain certain plans that may require us to make certain payments and/or provide certain benefits to our NEOs in the event of a termination of their employment or a change of control. The following tables and narrative disclosure summarize the potential payments to each of our NEOs assuming that one of the events listed in the tables below occurs. The tables assume that the event occurred on December 31, 2014, the last day of our fiscal year.

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## Key Employment Agreement and Equity Award Agreement Definitions

For purposes of the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement and the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement described in this section, "cause" (under which we may terminate their employment) is defined as: (i) an act or acts of dishonesty or gross misconduct on the executive's part which result or are intended to result in material damage to our business or reputation; or (ii) repeated material violations by the executive of his obligations relating to his position and duties, which violations are demonstrably willful and deliberate on the executive's part and which result in material damage to our business or reputation and as to which material violations our Board has notified the executive in writing.

For purposes of the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement and the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement described in this section, constructive termination (under which they may terminate their employment) is defined as: (i) without the written consent of the executive, (A) the assignment to the executive of any duties inconsistent in any substantial respect with the executive's position, authority or responsibilities as contemplated by the position and duties described in his employment agreement, or (B) any other substantial adverse change in such position, including titles, authority or responsibilities; (ii) any failure by us to comply with any of the provisions of his employment agreement, other than an insubstantial or inadvertent failure, remedied by us promptly after receipt of notice thereof given by the executive; (iii) our requiring the executive without his consent to be based at any office location outside of Riverside County, California or Orange County, California, except for travel reasonably required in the performance of the executive's responsibilities; or (iv) any failure by the Company to obtain the assumption and agreement by a successor entity to perform his employment agreement, provided that the successor entity has had actual written notice of the existence of his employment agreement and its terms and an opportunity to assume the Company's responsibilities under his employment agreement during a period of 10 business days after receipt of such notice.

For purposes of the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement and the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement described in this section, disability is defined as any disability which would entitle the executive to receive full long-term disability benefits under our long-term disability plan, or if no such plan will then be in effect, any physical or mental disability or incapacity which renders the executive incapable of performing the services and obligations required of him relating to the executive's position and duties for a period of more than 120 days in the aggregate during any 12-month period during the employment period.

For purposes of the restricted stock unit agreements with Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg, good reason is defined as termination of employment on or after a reduction in his compensation or benefits, his removal from his current position, or his being assigned duties and responsibilities that are inconsistent with the dignity, importance of scope of his position.

For purposes of the restricted stock unit agreements with Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg, cause is defined as an act of fraud or dishonesty, knowing and material failure to comply with applicable laws or regulations, or drug or alcohol abuse, in any case as

determined by the Board.

For purposes of the stock option agreements with Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg, change in control is defined as: (i) the acquisition of "Beneficial Ownership" by any person (as defined in rule 13(d)—3 under the Exchange Act), corporation or other entity other than us or a wholly-owned subsidiary of 20% or more of our outstanding stock; (ii) the sale or disposition of substantially all of our assets; or (iii) our merger with another corporation in which our Common Stock is no longer outstanding after such merger.

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For purposes of the stock option agreements with Mr. Sacks and Mr. Schlosberg, cause (under which we may terminate their employment) is defined as the individual's act of fraud or dishonesty, knowing and material failure to comply with applicable laws or regulations or drug or alcohol abuse; and good reason (under which they may terminate their employment) is defined as a reduction in the individual's compensation or benefits, the individual's removal from his current position or the assignment to the individual of duties or responsibilities that are inconsistent with the dignity, importance or scope of his position with us.

For purposes of all the stock option agreements, total disability is defined as the complete and permanent inability of the executive to perform all his duties of employment with us.

For purposes of the Hall 2015 Agreement, "good cause" (under which we may terminate employment with no obligation to pay severance) will include: (i) the neglect, breach of duty, or any failure to perform, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Executive Committee; (ii) the conviction of a felony, or any determination by the Executive Committee of the commission of theft, larceny, embezzlement, fraud, dishonesty, illegality, moral turpitude, harassment or gross mismanagement; (iii) the death or material disability to such an extent that, even with reasonable accommodation, the executive is precluded from performing the essential duties of his position; or (iv) the breach of the Hall 2015 Agreement or any fiduciary duties to MEC.

For purposes of the stock option agreements with Mr. Hall, change in control is generally defined as: (i) the acquisition of "beneficial ownership" by any person (as defined in Rule 13(d)—3 under the Exchange Act), corporation or other entity other than us or a wholly-owned subsidiary of ours of 50% or more of our outstanding stock; (ii) the sale or disposition of substantially all of our assets; or (iii) our merger with another corporation in which our Common Stock is no longer outstanding after such merger.

For purposes of the stock option agreements with Mr. Hall and Mr. Kelly, cause (under which we may terminate their employment) is defined as the individual's act of fraud or dishonesty, knowing and material failure to comply with applicable laws or regulations or satisfactory performance of his duties of employment, insubordination or drug or alcohol abuse.

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Rodney C. Sacks									
Circumstances of Termination									
Payments and Benefits	Death (\$)	Disability (\$)	Non- Renewal by Executive (\$)	Cause (\$)	Voluntary Termination (\$)	Termination by Corporation other than for Cause or Disability or Termination by the Executive for Constructive Termination or Good Reason (\$)	Change in control (\$)		
	(a)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)		
Base Salary	600,000	600,000	-	-	300,000	1,223,077	-		
Bonus	-	_	-	-	-	300,000	-		
Vacation	77,206	77,206	77,206	77,206	77,206	77,206	-		
Benefit Plans	24,274	32,825	-	16,413	16,413	131,300	-		
Automobile	38,710	38,710	-	-	-	154,840	-		
Perquisites & other personal benefits	-	_	-	-	-	-	-		
Acceleration of stock option awards	-		-	-	-	7,362,716	7,362,716		
Total	740,190	748,741	77,206	93,619	393,619	9,249,139	7,362,716		

- (a) Under the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement, upon termination due to death or disability, Mr. Sacks, or his legal representative, would be entitled to continuation of base salary, payment of benefit premiums for himself and his family and automobile benefits for a period of one year from the date of termination and payment for accrued vacation.
- (b) Under the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement, upon non-renewal by Mr. Sacks, Mr. Sacks would be entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (c) Under the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement, upon termination by us for cause, Mr. Sacks would be entitled to payment of benefit premiums for himself and his family for a period of six months from the date of termination and payment for accrued vacation.
- (d) Upon voluntary termination by Mr. Sacks, Mr. Sacks would be entitled to payment of his full base salary for a period of six months from the date of termination, payment of benefit premiums for himself and his family for a period of six months from the date of termination and payment for accrued vacation.
- (e) Under the Sacks 2014 Employment Agreement, upon termination by us without cause or termination by Mr. Sacks for constructive termination, or if we elected not to renew his employment agreement, Mr. Sacks would be entitled to a payment of two times his base salary, at the rate in effect on the date of termination, and a pro-rata portion of the bonus received in the year immediately prior to the year of the termination date, payable in the same manner and at the same time as the other senior officers of the Company, as if he remained employed through the applicable payment date. In addition, Mr. Sacks would be entitled to payment of all benefit premiums and automobile benefits for the period from the date of termination to December 31, 2018, or through the date which is eighteen months from the date of termination, whichever period is longer. Also, in the case of termination without cause, Mr. Sacks would be entitled to two weeks base salary in lieu of notice at the rate in effect on the date of termination. In addition, under Mr. Sacks' stock equity agreements, if Mr. Sacks' employment is terminated by us without cause or by Mr. Sacks for good reason, all equity awards will immediately become exercisable in their entirety.
- (f) Under Mr. Sacks' equity agreements, upon a change in control, all equity awards will immediately become exercisable in their entirety. With respect to Mr. Sacks' stock option agreements, options may, with the consent of Mr. Sacks, be purchased by the Company for cash at a price equal to the aggregate of the fair market value for one (1) share of our common stock less the purchase price payable by Mr. Sacks to exercise the options as set forth under each option agreement, multiplied by the number of shares of Common Stock which Mr. Sacks has the option to purchase.

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#### Hilton H. Schlosberg Circumstances of Termination Termination by Corporation other than for Cause or Disability or Termination by the Non-Executive for Renewal Constructive Voluntary Termination or by Payments and Death Disability Executive Cause Termination Good Reason Change in control Benefits (\$) (\$) (\$) (\$) (\$) (\$) (\$) (f) (a) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) Base Salary 600,000 600,000 300,000 1,223,077 \_ 300,000 Bonus \_ Vacation 49,731 49,731 49,731 49,731 49,731 49,731 Benefit Plans 14,581 23,132 11,566 11,566 92,528 93,632 Automobile 23,408 23,408 \_ --Perquisites & other personal benefits \_ -\_ \_ Acceleration of stock option awards 7,362,716 7,362,716 687,720 696,271 49,731 61,297 361,297 9,121,684 7,362,716 Total

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(a) Under the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement, upon termination due to death or disability, Mr. Schlosberg, or his legal representative, would be entitled to continuation of base salary, payment of benefit premiums for himself and his family and automobile benefits for a period of one year from the date of termination and payment for accrued vacation.

- (b) Under the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement, upon non-renewal by Mr. Schlosberg, Mr. Schlosberg would be entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (c) Under the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement, upon termination by us for cause, Mr. Schlosberg would be entitled to payment of benefit premiums for himself and his family for a period of six months from the date of termination and payment for accrued vacation.

- (d) Upon voluntary termination by Mr. Schlosberg, Mr. Schlosberg would be entitled to payment of his full base salary for a period of six months from the date of termination, payment of benefit premiums for himself and his family for a period of six months from the date of termination and payment for accrued vacation.
- (e) Under the Schlosberg 2014 Employment Agreement, upon termination by us without cause or termination by Mr. Schlosberg for constructive termination, or if we elected not to renew his employment agreement, Mr. Schlosberg would be entitled to a payment of two times his base salary, at the rate in effect on the date of termination, and a

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pro-rata portion of the bonus received in the year immediately prior to the year of the termination date, payable in the same manner and at the same time as the other senior officers of the Company, as if he remained employed through the applicable payment date. In addition, Mr. Schlosberg would be entitled to payment of all benefit premiums and automobile benefits for the period from the date of termination to December 31, 2018, or through the date which is eighteen months from the date of termination, whichever period is longer. Also, in the case of termination without cause, Mr. Schlosberg would be entitled to two weeks base salary in lieu of notice at the rate in effect on the date of termination. In addition, under Schlosberg's stock equity agreements, if Mr. Schlosberg's employment is terminated by us without cause or by Mr. Schlosberg for good reason, all equity awards will immediately become exercisable in their entirety.

(f) Under Mr. Schlosberg's equity agreements, upon a change in control, all equity awards will immediately become exercisable in their entirety. With respect to Mr. Schlosberg's stock option agreements, options may, with the consent of Mr. Schlosberg, be purchased by the Company for cash at a price equal to the aggregate of the fair market value for one (1) share of our common stock less the purchase price payable by Mr. Schlosberg to exercise the options as set forth under each option agreement, multiplied by the number of shares of Common Stock which Mr. Schlosberg has the option to purchase.

Mark J. Hall									
	Circumstances of Termination								
Payments and Benefits     Image: Composition of the sector o									
	(a)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)				
Base Salary	-	-	-	41,667	-				
Vacation	25,338	25,338	25,338	25,338	-				
Benefit Plans	603	1,213	1,213	2,426	-				
Automobile	-	-	-	-	-				
Perquisites & other personal benefits	-	-	-	-	-				
Acceleration of stock option awards	-	-	-	-	264,431				
Total	25,941	26,551	26,551	69,431	264,431				

- (a) Under our general employment practices, upon termination due to death or disability, Mr. Hall, or his legal representative, is entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (b) Under our general employment practices, upon termination by us for cause or voluntary termination by Mr. Hall, Mr. Hall is entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (c) Under Mr. Hall's employment offer letter, dated January 21, 1997, upon termination by us without cause, Mr. Hall would be entitled to two months of severance pay and the continuation of medical and dental benefit coverage for both himself and his family for a period of two months. In addition, under our general employment practices, upon termination by us without cause, Mr. Hall is entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (d) Under Mr. Hall's stock option agreements (exclusive of the stock option agreement dated December 1, 2010), upon a change in control, all stock option awards will immediately become exercisable in their entirety and the options

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may, with the consent of Mr. Hall, be purchased by us for cash at a price equal to the aggregate of the fair market value for one (1) share of our Common Stock less the purchase price payable by Mr. Hall to exercise the options as set forth under each option agreement, multiplied by the number of shares of Common Stock which Mr. Hall has the option to purchase. Under Mr. Hall's stock option agreement dated December 1, 2010, our Board may, at any time, in its sole discretion, provide that upon the occurrence of a change in control (as determined by the Board), all or a specified portion of any outstanding options, not theretofore exercisable, will immediately become exercisable and that any options not exercised prior to such change in control will be canceled.

Thomas J. Kelly

Circumstances of Termination							
Payments and Benefits	Death (\$)	Disability (\$)	Cause or Voluntary Termination (\$)	Termination by Corporation other than for Cause or Disability (\$)	Change in control (\$)		
	(a)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)		
Base Salary	-	-	-		-		
Vacation	10,927	10,927	10,927	10,927	-		
Benefit Plans	603	1,213	1,213	1,213	-		
Automobile	-	-			-		
Perquisites & other personal benefits	-	-	_	_	-		
Acceleration of stock option awards	-	-	-	-	-		
Total	11,531	12,140	12,140	12,140	-		

- (a) Under our general employment practices, upon termination due to death or disability, Mr. Kelly or his legal representative, is entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (b) Under our general employment practices, upon termination by us for cause or voluntary termination by Mr. Kelly, Mr. Kelly is entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (c) Under our general employment practices, upon termination by us without cause, Mr. Kelly is entitled to payment for accrued vacation.
- (d) Under Mr. Kelly's stock option agreements, the Board may, at any time, in its sole discretion, provide that upon the occurrence of a change in control (as determined by the Board), all or a specified portion of any outstanding options not theretofore exercisable, will immediately become exercisable and that any options not exercised prior to such change in control will be canceled. Under the Amendment to Conditions of Employment of Mr. Kelly dated December 7, 1999, if, following a change in control, Mr. Kelly's employment with us is terminated by us other than for cause or in the event that Mr. Kelly resigns under circumstances which constitute constructive dismissal by us of Mr. Kelly, then Mr. Kelly will be entitled to receive severance pay from us as follows: If termination occurs within the first six (6) months after the change in control occurs, Mr. Kelly will be entitled to six (6) months severance pay in the amount of \$125,000; if termination occurs between six (6) and twelve (12) months after the change in control occurs, Mr. Kelly will be entitled to four (4) months severance pay in the amount of \$83,333 and if the termination occurs between eighteen and twenty-four (24) months after the change in control occurs, Mr. Kelly will be entitled to three (3) months severance pay in the amount of \$62,500.

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## DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth a summary of the fees earned by our outside directors during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)(1)	Option Awards (\$)(2)	Total (\$)
Benjamin M. Polk	60,000	144,969		204,969
Norman C. Epstein	92,500	144,969		237,469
Sydney Selati	85,000	144,969		229,969
Harold C. Taber, Jr.	87,500	144,969		232,469
Mark S. Vidergauz	67,500	144,969		212,469

- 1. The outside directors held the following numbers of restricted stock units as of December 31, 2014, which vest on the last business day prior to the Company's 2015 annual shareholder meeting: Benjamin M. Polk, 2,101; Norman C. Epstein, 2,101; Harold C. Taber, Jr. 2,101; Mark S. Vidergauz, 2,101 and Sydney Selati, 2,101. Each restricted stock unit represents either (i) a contingent right to receive one share of the Common Stock or (ii) a cash amount equal to the number of shares received as of the vesting date (the last business day prior to the Company's 2015 annual meeting of stockholders (the "Annual Meeting").
- 2. The outside directors held the following numbers of outstanding stock options as of December 31, 2014; Benjamin M. Polk, 6,924; Norman C. Epstein, 0; Harold C. Taber, Jr. 45,324; Mark S. Vidergauz, 13,524 and Sydney Selati, 0.

In 2014, outside directors were entitled to receive an annual cash retainer of \$60,000. Except for committee chairs, members of the Audit Committee received an additional annual retainer of \$10,000 and members of the Compensation Committee and Nominating Committee received an additional \$7,500. The chairman of the Audit Committee received an additional annual retainer of \$15,000 and the chairs of the Compensation Committee and Nominating Committee received an additional \$10,000. In 2014, outside directors were entitled to receive an annual equity retainer of approximately \$145,000. These awards vest one day prior to the Annual Meeting.

## **Outside Directors Equity Compensation Plans**

The 2009 Hansen Natural Corporation Stock Incentive Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the "2009 Directors Plan") permits the granting of options, stock appreciation rights (each, an "SAR"), and other stock-based awards to purchase up to an aggregate of 1,600,000 shares of common stock of the Company to non-employee directors of the Company. The 2009 Directors Plan is administered by the Board of Directors. Each award granted under the 2009 Directors Plan is to be evidenced by a written agreement and will contain the terms and conditions that the Board of Directors deems appropriate. The Board of Directors may grant such awards on the last business day prior to the date of the annual meeting of stockholders. Any award granted under the 2009 Directors Plan will vest, with respect to 100% of such award, on the last business day prior to the date of the annual meeting, in the calendar year following the calendar year in which such award is granted. The Board of Directors may determine the exercise price per share of the Company's common stock under each option, but such price may not be less than 100% of the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date an option is granted. Option grants may be made under the 2009 Directors Plan for 10 years from June 4, 2009. The Board of Directors may also grant SARs, independently, or in

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connection with an option grant. The Board of Directors may determine the exercise price per share of the Company's common stock under each SAR, but such price may not be less than the greater of (i) the fair market value of a share on the date the SAR is granted and (ii) the price of the related option, if the SAR is granted in connection with an option grant. Additionally, the Board of Directors may grant other stock-based awards, which include awards of shares of the Company's common stock, restricted shares of the Company's common stock, and awards that are valued based on the fair market value of shares of the Company's common stock. SARs and other stock-based awards are subject to the general provisions of the 2009 Directors Plan. The Board of Directors may amend or terminate the 2009 Directors Plan at any time. The 2009 Directors Plan replaced the 2005 Hansen Natural Corporation Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors.

## **EMPLOYEE EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

## **Employee Equity Compensation Plans**

The 2011 Incentive Plan permits the granting of options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance awards and other stock-based awards up to an aggregate of 14,500,000 shares of the common stock of the Company to employees or consultants of the Company and its subsidiaries. Shares authorized under the 2011 Incentive Plan are reduced by 2.16 shares for each share granted or issued with respect to a Full Value Award. A Full Value Award is an award other than an incentive stock option, a non-qualified stock option, or a stock appreciation right, which is settled by the issuance of shares. Options granted under the 2011 Incentive Plan may be incentive stock options under Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, or non-qualified stock options. The Compensation Committee has sole and exclusive authority to grant stock awards to all employees who are not new hires and to all new hires who are subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act. The Compensation Committee and the Executive Committee each independently has the authority to grant stock awards to new hires who are not Section 16 employees. Awards granted by the Executive Committee are not subject to approval or ratification by the Board or the Compensation Committee. Options granted under the 2011 Incentive Plan generally vest over a five-year period from the grant date. Restricted stock units granted under the 2011 Incentive Plan generally vests over a two- to three-year period from the grant date. Restricted stock units granted under the 2011 Incentive Plan generally vests over a two- to five-year period from the grant date. The 2011 Incentive Plan replaced the Hansen Natural Corporation 2001 Amended Option Plan, which was terminated effective as of May 19, 2011.

The 2011 Incentive Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee, which is comprised of directors who satisfy the "non-employee" director requirements of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act and the "outside director" provision of Section 162(m) of the Code. Grants under the 2011 Incentive Plan are made pursuant to individual agreements between the Company and each grantee that specifies the terms of the grant, including the exercise price, exercise period, vesting and other terms thereof.

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The following table sets forth information as of December 31, 2014 with respect to shares of our Common Stock that may be issued under our equity compensation plans.

Plan category

Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities

	warrants and rights (a)	and rights (b)	reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by stockholders	13,214,554	\$19.73	11,384,395
Equity compensation plans not approved by stockholders			
Total	13,214,554	\$19.73	11,384,395

As of June 12, 2015, 10,302,059 shares were available for grant under equity compensation plans.

## CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The Board has determined that Messrs. Epstein, Fayard, Polk, Selati, Taber and Vidergauz are independent directors under applicable NASDAQ Marketplace Rules and SEC regulations.

Each director and nominee for election as a director delivers to the Company annually a questionnaire that includes, among other things, information relating to any transactions the director or nominee, or their family members, may have with the Company, or in which the director or nominee, or such family member, has a direct or indirect material interest.

The Board, as well as its Audit Committee, reviews, approves and monitors all related party transactions. The Audit Committee's policies and procedures for related party transactions are not in writing, but the proceedings are documented in the minutes of the Board and/or Audit Committee meetings. The Audit Committee will assess, among factors it deems appropriate, whether the transaction is on terms no more favorable than terms generally available to an unaffiliated third-party under the same or similar circumstances and the extent of the related party's interest in the transaction. The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing all related party transactions on a continuing basis as well as potential conflict of interest situations where appropriate. No director will participate in any discussion or approval of a transaction for which he is a related party, except that this director will provide all material information concerning the transaction to the Audit Committee.

During 2014, we purchased promotional items from IFM Group, Inc. ("IFM"). Rodney C. Sacks, together with members of his family, owns approximately 27% of the issued shares in IFM. Hilton H. Schlosberg, together with members of his family, owns approximately 58% of the issued shares in IFM. Expenses incurred with such company in connection with promotional materials purchased during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 were \$0.6 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. We continue to purchase promotional items from IFM in 2015.

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## AUDIT COMMITTEE

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Company's Audit Committee was comprised of Mr. Epstein (Chairman until February 27, 2015), Mr. Taber and Mr. Selati (Chairman since February 27, 2015). The Board of Directors has adopted a Audit Committee, written charter the a copy of which is available on our website for at http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm. The Board of Directors has determined that the members of the Audit Committee are "independent," as defined in the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules and SEC regulations relating to audit committees, meaning that they have no relationship to the Company that may interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out their responsibilities of a director.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The Audit Committee consists of three independent directors (as independence is defined by NASD Rule 5605(a)(2)). Our Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Epstein is (1) an "audit committee financial expert," as that term is defined in Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K of the Exchange Act, and (2) independent as defined by the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules and Section 10A(m)(3) of the Exchange Act. The Audit Committee appoints, determines funding for, oversees and evaluates the independent registered public accounting firm with respect to accounting, internal controls and other matters, and makes other decisions with respect to audit and finance matters including the review of our quarterly and annual filings on Form 10-Q and Form 10-K. The Audit Committee also pre-approves the retention of the independent registered public accounting firm's fees for all audit and non-audit services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm's fees for all audit and non-audit services is compatible with maintaining the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm. All members of the Audit Committee are able to read and understand financial statements and have experience in finance and accounting that provides them with financial sophistication.

Pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors and the Audit Committee's written charter, the Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to:

- the integrity of the Company's financial statements;
- the Company's systems of internal controls regarding finance and accounting as established by management;
- the qualifications and independence of the independent registered public accounting firm;
- the performance of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm;
- the Company's auditing, accounting and financial reporting processes generally; and
- compliance with the Company's ethical standards for senior financial officers and all personnel.

In fulfilling its duties, the Audit Committee maintains free and open communication with the Board, the independent registered public accounting firm, financial management and all employees.

## **Report of the Audit Committee**

In connection with these responsibilities, the Audit Committee met with management and Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, to review and discuss the Company's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. The Audit Committee also discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm the matters required by the Public

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Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "PCAOB") AU Section 325 "Communications about Control Deficiencies in an Audit of Financial Statements" and AU Section 380 "Communications with Audit Committees", as may be modified or supplemented. The Audit Committee also received from Deloitte & Touche LLP the written disclosures and the letter required by PCAOB Rule 3526 "Communication with Audit Committees Concerning Independence", as may be modified or supplemented, and has discussed with Deloitte & Touche LLP its independence.

Based on the foregoing reviews and discussions, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

## <u>Audit Committee</u>

Norman C. Epstein, Chairman Harold C. Taber, Jr. Sydney Selati

## **Principal Accounting Firm Fees and Services**

## Fees of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for 2014 and 2013

Aggregate fees billed and unbilled to the Company for service provided for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 by the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, Deloitte & Touche LLP, the member firms of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, and their respective affiliates (collectively "Deloitte & Touche"):

	Year ended December 31,				
	2014 2013				
Audit Fees	\$1,303,130	\$1,228,050			
Tax Fees <sup>1</sup>	943,319	589,227			
All Other Fees <sup>2</sup>	130,233	-			
Total Fees <sup>3</sup>	\$2,376,682	\$1,817,277			

<sup>1</sup> Tax fees consisted of fees for tax consultation services including advisory services for a state tax analysis and domestic and international tax advice.

<sup>2</sup> All other fees consisted of fees incurred in connection with other transactions for the Company.

<sup>3</sup>For the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, all of the services performed by Deloitte & Touche were approved by the Audit Committee.

## Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve all audit and non-audit services provided by the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. Pre-approval is generally provided for up to one year, and any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or category of services and is generally subject to a specific budget. The Audit Committee has delegated pre-approval authority to its chairman when necessary due to timing considerations. Any services approved by the chairman must be reported to the full Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting. The independent registered public accounting firm and management are required to periodically report to the full Audit Committee regarding the extent of services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm in accordance with the pre-approval policies, and the fees for the services performed to date. All services in the table above were approved by the Audit Committee.

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## **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Company's Compensation Committee was comprised of Mr. Epstein (Chairman), Mr. Selati, Mr. Taber and Mr. Vidergauz. The Compensation Committee is responsible for reviewing, developing and recommending to the Board the appropriate management compensation policies, programs and levels, and reviewing the performance of the Chief Executive Officer, President and other senior executive officers periodically in relation to certain objectives.

The Compensation Committee is ultimately responsible for determining, affirming or amending the level and nature of executive compensation of the Company. The Compensation Committee has access, at the Company's expense, to independent, outside compensation consultants for both advice and competitive data for the purpose of making such determinations. The Compensation Committee believes that the compensation policies and programs as outlined above in "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" ensure that levels of executive compensation fairly reflect the performance of the Company, thereby serving the best interests of its stockholders. The Board has adopted written Equity Grant Procedures.

## **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation in Compensation Decisions**

No interlocking relationships exist between any member of the Company's Board of Directors or Compensation Committee and any member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any other company, nor has any such interlocking relationship existed in the past. No member of the Compensation Committee, other than Mr. Taber, who served as President and Chief Executive Officer of MEC from July 1992 to June 1997, is or was formerly an officer or an employee of the Company.

## **Compensation Committee Report**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K. Based on such review and discussions, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis referred to above be included in this proxy statement.

### **Compensation Committee**

Norman C. Epstein, Chairman Sydney Selati Harold C. Taber, Jr. Mark S. Vidergauz

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Company's Nominating Committee was comprised of Mr. Taber (Chairman), Mr. Epstein and Mr. Selati. The Nominating Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities by establishing, and submitting to the Board for approval, criteria for the selection of new directors; identifying and approving individuals qualified to serve as members of the Board; selecting director nominees for our annual meetings of stockholders; evaluating the performance of the Board; reviewing and recommending to the Board any appropriate changes to the committees of the Board;

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and developing and recommending to the Board corporate governance guidelines and oversight with respect to corporate governance and ethical conduct. The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Nominating Committee, a copy of which is available on our website at <u>http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm.</u>

## **Process for Selection and Nomination of Directors**

In connection with the process of selecting and nominating candidates for election to the Board, the Nominating Committee reviews the desired experience, mix of skills and other qualities to assure appropriate Board composition, taking into account the current Board members and the specific needs of the Company and the Board. Among the qualifications to be considered in the selection of candidates, the Nominating Committee considers the experience, knowledge, skills, expertise, diversity, personal and professional integrity, character, business judgment, time available in light of other commitments and dedication of any particular candidate, as well as such candidate's past or anticipated contributions to the Board and its committees so that the Board includes members, where appropriate, with diverse backgrounds, knowledge and skills relevant to the business of the Company. In April 2015, the charter for the Nominating Committee was amended to state that diversity of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual

orientation and gender identity are factors in evaluating suitable candidates for Board membership. See "Deadlines for Receipt of Stockholder Proposals" for information regarding nominations of director candidates by stockholders for the 2016 annual meeting of stockholders.

Though the Nominating Committee does not solicit recommendations for director candidates, the Nominating Committee has a policy regarding the consideration of any director candidates recommended by stockholders. Suggestions for candidates to the Board may be made in writing and mailed to the Nominating Committee, c/o Office of the Secretary, Monster Beverage Corporation, 1 Monster Way, Corona, CA 92879. Nominations must be submitted in a manner consistent with our by-laws. We will furnish a copy of the by-laws to any person, without charge, upon written request directed to the Office of the Secretary at our principal executive offices. Each candidate suggestion made by a stockholder must include the following:

- the candidate's name, contact information, detailed biographical material, qualifications and an explanation of the reasons why the stockholder believes that this candidate is qualified for service on the Board;
- all information relating to the candidate that is required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for elections of directors in an election contest, or as otherwise required, under the securities laws;
- a written consent of the candidate to being named in a Company proxy statement as a nominee and to serving as a director, if elected; and
- a description of any arrangements or undertakings between the stockholder and the candidate regarding the nomination.

Our Nominating Committee will evaluate all stockholder-recommended candidates on the same basis as any other candidate.

## **Director Resignation Policy**

The Board has a director resignation policy. This policy provides that, in an uncontested election, any incumbent director nominee who receives a greater number of votes "WITHHELD" from his or her election than votes "FOR" his or her election must promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board following

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certification of the election results. The Nominating Committee will review the circumstances surrounding the election and recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject the resignation. The Board must act on the tendered resignation. If such resignation is rejected, the Board must publicly disclose its decision, together with the rationale supporting its decision, within 90 days after certification of the election results. A copy of the director resignation policy is available on our website at http://investors.monsterbevcorp.com/governance.cfm.

## PROPOSAL TWO

## RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP AS THE INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM OF THE COMPANY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015

The Audit Committee has appointed Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, to audit the financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015. In the event of a negative vote on such ratification, the Audit Committee will reconsider its selection.

Representatives of Deloitte & Touche LLP are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting with the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so, and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders of the Company.

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" THE RATIFICATION OF DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM.

#### **PROPOSAL THREE**

## ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act") enables our stockholders to approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, the compensation of our NEOs as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with SEC rules.

Our executive compensation program for our NEOs is designed to motivate our executive talent, to reward those individuals fairly over time for achieving performance goals, to retain those individuals who continue to perform at or above the levels that are deemed essential to ensure our long-term success and growth and to attract, as needed, individuals with the skills necessary for us to achieve our business plan. We believe our compensation policies are designed to reinforce a sense of ownership and overall

entrepreneurial spirit and to link rewards to measurable corporate and qualitative individual performance. See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" above.

We urge stockholders to read the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, as well as the Summary Compensation Table and related tables and narrative that follow it. This proposal is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our NEOs and the policies and practices described in this proxy statement.

The Board requests that stockholders approve the following advisory resolution at the Annual Meeting:

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RESOLVED, that the stockholders of Monster Beverage Corporation (the "Company") approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Summary Compensation Table and the related compensation tables and narrative in the proxy statement for the Company's 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

While the vote on the resolution is advisory in nature and therefore will not bind us to take any particular action, our Board and Compensation Committee intend to carefully consider the stockholder vote resulting from the proposal in making future decisions regarding our compensation program.

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" THE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

### **PROPOSAL FOUR**

## STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL REGARDING PROXY ACCESS

The Company received the following resolution and supporting statement submitted by the Comptroller of the City of New York (the "Comptroller of the City of New York"), as custodian and trustee of the New York City Employees' Retirement System, the New York City Fire Department Pension Fund, the New York Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Police Pension Fund and as custodian of the New York City Board of Education Retirement System (collectively, the "Systems"), and is including the proposal in this Proxy Statement in accordance with Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act. The address and stock ownership for the Comptroller of the City of New York and each of the Systems will be furnished promptly upon receipt of any oral or written request addressed to the Company Secretary at the Company's executive offices.

The following stockholder proposal and supporting statement is presented as submitted by the Comptroller of the City of New York and is quoted verbatim.

## **RESOLUTION CONCERNING PROXY ACCESS**

**RESOLVED:** Shareholders of Monster Beverage Corporation (the "Company") ask the board of directors (the "Board") to adopt, and present for shareholder approval, a "proxy access" bylaw. Such a bylaw shall require the Company to include in proxy materials prepared for a shareholder meeting at which directors are to be elected the name, Disclosure and Statement (as defined herein) of any person nominated for election to the board by a shareholder or group (the "Nominator") that meets the criteria established below. The Company shall allow shareholders to vote on such nominee on the Company's proxy card.

The number of shareholder-nominated candidates appearing in proxy materials shall not exceed one quarter of the directors then serving. This bylaw, which shall supplement existing rights under Company bylaws, should provide that a Nominator must:

- a) have beneficially owned 3% or more of the Company's outstanding common stock continuously for at least three years before submitting the nomination;
- b) give the Company, within the time period identified in its bylaws, written notice of the information required by the bylaws and any Securities and Exchange Commission rules about (i) the nominee, including consent to being named in the proxy materials and to serving as director if elected; and (ii) the Nominator, including proof it owns the required shares (the "Disclosure"); and

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c) certify that (i) it will assume liability stemming from any legal or regulatory violation arising out of the Nominator's communications with the Company shareholders, including the Disclosure and Statement; (ii) it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations if it uses soliciting material other than the Company's proxy materials; and (c) to the best

of its knowledge, the required shares were acquired in the ordinary course of business and not to change or influence control at the Company.

The Nominator may submit with the Disclosure a statement not exceeding 500 words in support of the nominee (the "Statement"). The Board shall adopt procedures for promptly resolving disputes over whether notice of a nomination was timely, whether the Disclosure and Statement satisfy the bylaw and applicable federal regulations, and the priority to be given to multiple nominations exceeding the one-quarter limit.

## SUPPORTING STATEMENT:

We believe proxy access is a fundamental shareholder right that will make directors more accountable and contribute to increased shareholder value. The CFA Institute's 2014 assessment of pertinent academic studies and the use of proxy access in other markets similarly concluded that proxy access:

- Would "benefit both the markets and corporate boardrooms, with little cost or disruption."
- Has the potential to raise overall US market capitalization by up to \$140.3 billion if adopted market-wide. (<u>http://www.cfapubs.org/doi/pdf/10.2469/ccb.v2014.n9.1</u>)

The proposed bylaw terms enjoy strong investor support — votes for similar shareholder proposals averaged 55% from 2012 through September 2014 — and similar bylaws have been adopted by companies of various sizes across industries, including Chesapeake Energy, Hewlett-Packard, Western Union and Verizon.

We urge shareholders to vote FOR this proposal.

## The Company's Statement in Opposition

The Board has carefully considered the Proxy Access Proposal and, for the reasons described below, believes that adopting the Proxy Access Proposal is unnecessary and not in the best interests of the Company or its stockholders.

The Board believes that the Company's current director nomination process serves stockholder interests better than the process advocated in the Proxy Access Proposal. If successful, the proposal would impose significant limits on the Nominating Committee's role in one of the most important elements of corporate governance, the election of directors. We believe that the members of our Nominating Committee are the people best positioned to assess the professional experiences, skills and character of potential director nominees and to determine whether they will be effective contributors to our Board in addressing the evolving needs of the Company and will represent the best interests of all of our stockholders. Additionally, members of the Nominating Committee owe fiduciary duties to all of the Company's stockholders when they nominate director candidates. In contrast, a stockholder making nominations through the proposal's proxy access process would have no fiduciary obligations to the Company or its stockholders and could be motivated entirely by its own interests, rather than by the interests of all Company stockholders and the Company's long-term business goals. While stockholders would be able to reject any stockholder-nominated candidate, the cost and disruption of having to defend against narrow agenda-driven attacks is meaningful and not in stockholders' interests, as discussed in further detail below.

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Unlike the Proxy Access Proposal, the Company's current policies and procedures afford a level playing field. Our Board is committed to strong corporate governance practices and an appropriate balance of stockholder rights. As discussed above under "Nominating Committee—Process For Selection and Nomination of Directors," our governing policies permit stockholders to recommend director candidates to the Nominating Committee, which evaluates candidates recommended by stockholders on the same basis as the Board's own director candidates.

The Company's current organizational documents and corporate governance policies are also designed to empower stockholders. For example:

- all directors are elected annually;
- the Company has adopted a director resignation policy requiring incumbent directors who fail to receive a majority of votes in an uncontested election to tender their resignation;
- the Board has a Lead Independent Director with broad authority and responsibility;
- stockholders may take action by written consent;
- stockholders may increase or decrease the number of seats on the Board;
- any or all directors may be removed, with or without cause, by stockholders;
- board vacancies may be filled by stockholders;
- the Company's governing documents do not contain any supermajority stockholder voting requirement;
- · stockholders may propose director candidates to the Nominating Committee, as discussed above; and
- stockholders may submit proposals and nominees for presentation at an annual meeting and for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement for that annual meeting, subject to certain conditions set forth in our bylaws and the

#### rules and regulations of the SEC, as applicable.

In contrast to our existing corporate governance policies, the Proxy Access Proposal would grant special rights to a limited group of stockholders whose interests may differ significantly from the interests of the majority of stockholders. We note that a stockholder or group of stockholders owning 3% of the Company's outstanding shares owns, at today's share prices, approximately \$675 million worth of shares. We believe, therefore, that a shareholder or group of shareholders that meets the 3% ownership threshold and has a legitimate interest in nominating a board candidate has the resources necessary to bear the costs of soliciting proxies. The expenses associated with proxy solicitation limit such challenges to instances where there are significant enough governance issues to warrant the challenge; the Proxy Access Proposal would eliminate any such constraint.

**Implementation of the Proxy Access Proposal could be harmful to the long-term success of the Company.** Proxy access may result in frequent contested elections, which could require the Company to divert significant time, money and attention towards these contested elections and away from the operations of the Company. We believe that this proposal does not provide sufficient incentives for stockholders making such nominations to appropriately prioritize the long-term interests of the Company, and does not represent an ownership level and duration sufficient to justify the potentially significant costs and disruption. Furthermore, the prospect of routine contested elections is likely to deter highly-qualified individuals from serving on our Board and may cause our incumbent directors to become excessively risk-averse, which would have a negative impact on their ability to provide sound judgment and oversight with respect to the Company's operations and interests.

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The Board wishes to conduct a more thorough evaluation of possible proxy access policies. The Board believes that the desire for proxy access is driven by a genuine and legitimate interest in ensuring that the Board is comprised of people who will best represent stockholder interests. Once adopted, proxy access would play a significant role in the Company's corporate governance framework, and it is important that we strike an appropriate balance between respecting stockholders' concerns about Board accountability and minimizing the potential for abuse and disruption. It is therefore important that the Company have time to develop a measured and thoughtful approach to proxy access based on feedback from our stockholders. We are committed to continuing ongoing discussions with stockholders about proxy access, and we believe that approval of the Proxy Access Proposal will end those discussions prematurely.

For the reasons stated above, the Board believes that instituting the change called for by the Proxy Access Proposal is unnecessary and not in the best interests of our stockholders.

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "AGAINST" THE ADOPTION OF THE PROXY ACCESS PROPOSAL

## **OTHER MATTERS**

The Company knows of no other matters to be submitted to the Annual Meeting. If any other matters properly come before the Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the proxy to vote the shares they represent as the Board of Directors may recommend.

It is important that your shares be represented at the Annual Meeting, regardless of the number of shares that you hold. You are, therefore, urged to vote by calling the toll free number or over the Internet or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, by marking, signing, dating and returning your proxy card.

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE BOARD

Stockholders, employees and other individuals interested in communicating with the Chairman and CEO should write to the address below:

Rodney C. Sacks, Chairman and CEO Monster Beverage Corporation 1 Monster Way Corona, CA 92879

Those interested in communicating directly with the Board, any of the committees of the Board, the Lead Independent Director, the outside directors as a group or individually should write to the address below:

Office of the Corporate Secretary Monster Beverage Corporation 1 Monster Way Corona, CA 92879

## FORM 10-K AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE

A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, as filed with the SEC, is available over the Internet at the SEC's website, <u>www.sec.gov</u>, or on our website at <u>www.monsterbevcorp.com</u>. The Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, is also available without charge to any stockholder upon request to:

## Monster Beverage Corporation 1 Monster Way Corona, CA 92879 (951) 739-6200 \* (800) 426-7367

Additionally, charters for certain of the committees of the Board of Directors and the Lead Independent Director as well as the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and Director Resignation Policy are available on our website.

## **Incorporation by Reference**

In accordance with SEC rules, notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in any of the Company's previous or future filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act that might incorporate this proxy statement or future filings made by the Company under those statutes, the information included under the captions "Compensation Committee Report," and "Report of the Audit Committee" shall not be deemed filed with the SEC and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any of those prior filings or into any future filings made by the Company under those statutes, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates these items by reference.

## BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dated: June 24, 2015

<u>/s/ Rodney C. Sacks</u> RODNEY C. SACKS Chairman of the Board of Directors

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## PROXY FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF MONSTER BEVERAGE CORPORATION

## August 7, 2015

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NOTICE OF INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS:

The Proxy Materials are available at https://materials.proxyvote.com/61174X

Please sign, date and mail your proxy card in the envelope provided as soon as possible.

Please detach along perforated line and mail in the envelope provided.

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" PROPOSALS 1, 2 AND 3 AND "AGAINST" PROPOSAL 4. PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND RETURN PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. PLEASE MARK YOUR VOTE IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS SHOWN HERE x

1. Pr	oposal to elect ten Directors:		2.		ntment of Deloitte & Touche LLP d public accounting firm of the ending December 31, 2015.	0	0	0
0 0 0	FOR ALL NOMINEES WITHHOLD AUTHORITY FOR ALL NOMINEES FOR ALL EXCEPT (See instructions below)	NOMINEES: Rodney C. Sacks Hilton H. Schlosberg Mark J. Hall Norman C. Epstein Gary P. Fayard Benjamin M. Polk Sydney Selati Harold C. Taber, Jr. Kathy N. Waller	"А	Company for the fiscal year Proposal to approve, on a r compensation of the Compa Stockholder proposal regar E BOARD OF DIRECTORS R GAINST" PROPOSAL 4.	ending December 31, 2015. non-binding, advisory basis, the ny's named executive officers.		AGAINST O AGAINST O ALS 1, 2 AN	ABSTAIN O ABSTAIN O ND 3 AND
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## PROXY FOR MONSTER BEVERAGE CORPORATION THE ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 7, 2015 THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The undersigned stockholder of Monster Beverage Corporation (the "Company") hereby acknowledges receipt of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement, each dated June 24, 2015, and hereby appoints Rodney C. Sacks and Hilton H. Schlosberg, or either of them, as proxies and attorneys-in-fact, each with the power to appoint his substitute, on behalf and in the name of the undersigned, to represent the undersigned at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company to be held on August 7, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. PST, at the Company's executive offices, located at 1 Monster Way, Corona, California 92879 and at any postponement or adjournment thereof, and to vote all the stock of the Company that the undersigned would be entitled to vote as designated on the reverse hereof if then and there personally present, on the matters set forth in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and proxy statement. In their discretion, such proxies are each authorized to vote upon such other business as may properly come before such Annual Meeting of Stockholders or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

## **PROXY FOR** ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF MONSTER BEVERAGE CORPORATION

August 7, 2015

## **PROXY VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**

**INTERNET** - Access "www.voteproxy.com" and follow the on-screen instructions or scan the QR code with your smartphone. Have your proxy card available when you access the web page.

TELEPHONE - Call toll-free 1-800-PROXIES (1-800-776-9437) in the United States or 1-718-921-8500 from foreign countries from any touch-tone telephone and follow the instructions. Have your proxy card available when you call.

Vote online/phone until 11:59 PM EST the day before the meeting.

MAIL - Sign, date and mail your proxy card in the envelope provided as soon as possible.

**IN PERSON** - You may vote your shares in person by attending the Annual Meeting.

GO GREEN - e-Consent makes it easy to go paperless. With e-Consent, you can quickly access your proxy material, statements and other eligible documents online, while reducing costs, clutter and paper waste. Enroll today via www.amstock.com to enjoy online access.

COMPANY NUMBER	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	

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"Please detach along perforated line and mail in the envelope provided IF you are not voting via telephone or the Internet. "

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0	FOR ALL NOMINEES	NOMINEES: Rodney C. Sacks Hilton H. Schlosberg Mark J. Hall		3.	Proposal to approve, on a compensation of the Comp	non-binding, advisory basis, the any's named executive officers.	FOR <b>O</b> FOR	AGAINST O AGAINST	ABSTAIN O ABSTAIN
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		Kathy N. Waller Mark S. Vidergauz		IF N	O DIRECTION IS GIVEN A	proxy card will be voted as directed ND THE PROXY CARD IS VALIDI SALS 1, 2 AND 3 AND AGAINST			E SHARES
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Sign	ature of Stockholder	Date:			Signature of Stockholder			Date:	
		e or names appear on this Proxy. When shares are held join ation, please sign full corporate name by duly authorized off							title