

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

FORM 10-K

(Mark
One)

☒ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 27, 2011

OR

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Texas Roadhouse, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

000-50972
(Commission
File Number)

20-1083890
(IRS Employer
Identification Number)

6040 Dutchmans Lane, Suite 200
Louisville, Kentucky 40205
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(502) 426-9984
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Title of Each Class
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share

Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Nasdaq Global Select Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: **None**

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

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

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

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer ☐ Smaller reporting company ☐

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

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of the last day of the second fiscal quarter ended June 28, 2011 was \$1,086,499,081 based on the closing stock price of \$17.73. Shares of voting stock held by each officer and director have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed to be affiliates. This determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes. The registrant has no shares of non-voting common stock authorized or outstanding. The market value calculation was determined using the closing stock price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Select Market.

The number of shares of common stock outstanding were 69,281,187 on February 15, 2012.

Portions of the registrant's definitive Proxy Statement for the registrant's 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which is expected to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days of the registrant's fiscal year ended December 27, 2011, are incorporated by reference into Part III of the Form 10-K. With the exception of the portions of the Proxy Statement expressly incorporated by reference, such document shall not be deemed filed with this Form 10-K.

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SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains statements about future events and expectations that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements are based on our beliefs, assumptions and expectations of our future financial and operating performance and growth plans, taking into account the information currently available to us. These statements are not statements of historical fact. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations of future results we express or imply in any forward-looking statements. In addition to the other factors discussed under "Risk Factors" elsewhere in this report, factors that could contribute to these differences include, but are not limited to:

- our ability to raise capital in the future;
- our ability to successfully execute our growth strategy;
- our ability to successfully open new restaurants, acquire franchise restaurants or execute other strategic transactions;
- our ability to increase and/or maintain sales and profits at our existing restaurants;
- our ability to integrate the franchise or other restaurants which we acquire or develop;
- the continued service of key management personnel;
- health concerns about our food products;
- our ability to attract, motivate and retain qualified employees;
- the impact of federal, state or local government regulations relating to our employees or production and the sale of food and alcoholic beverages;
- the impact of litigation, including negative publicity;
- the cost of our principal food products;
- labor shortages or increased labor costs;
- inflationary increases in the costs of construction and/or real estate;
- changes in consumer preferences and demographic trends;
- increasing competition in the restaurant industry;
- our ability to successfully expand into new domestic and international markets;
- risks associated with partnering with franchisees or other investment partners in markets with whom we have no prior history and whose interests may not align with ours;
- the rate of growth of general and administrative expenses associated with building a strengthened corporate infrastructure to support our growth initiatives;
- negative publicity regarding food safety, health concerns and other food or beverage related matters;
- our franchisees' adherence to our practices, policies and procedures;
- potential fluctuation in our quarterly operating results due to seasonality and other factors;
- supply and delivery shortages or interruptions;
- inadequate protection of our intellectual property;

- volatility of actuarially determined insurance losses and loss estimates;
- adoption of new, or changes in existing, accounting policies and practices;
- adverse weather conditions which impact guest traffic at our restaurants; and
- adverse economic conditions.

The words "believe," "may," "should," "anticipate," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "objective," "seek," "plan," "strive" or similar words, or the negatives of these words, identify forward-looking statements. We qualify any forward-looking statements entirely by these cautionary factors.

Other risks, uncertainties and factors, including those discussed under "Risk Factors," could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in any forward-looking statements we make.

We assume no obligation to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements for any reason, or to update the reasons actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future.

PART I

ITEM 1—BUSINESS

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. ("Texas Roadhouse" or the "Company") was incorporated under the laws of the state of Delaware in 2004. The principal executive office is located in Louisville, Kentucky.

General Development of Business

Texas Roadhouse is a growing, moderately priced, full-service, casual dining restaurant chain. Our founder, chairman and chief executive officer ("CEO"), W. Kent Taylor, started the business in 1993 with the opening of the first Texas Roadhouse in Clarksville, Indiana. Since then, we have grown to 365 restaurants in 47 states. In addition, we opened our first international franchise-owned Texas Roadhouse in Dubai, UAE in 2011. Our mission statement is "Legendary Food, Legendary Service®." Our operating strategy is designed to position each of our restaurants as the local hometown destination for a broad segment of consumers seeking high quality, affordable meals served with friendly, attentive service. As of December 27, 2011, we owned and operated 294 restaurants and franchised or licensed an additional 72 restaurants. Of the 294 restaurants we owned and operated at the end of 2011, 291 operated as Texas Roadhouse restaurants, while three operated under the name of Aspen Creek. All of our planned restaurant growth in 2012 will be Texas Roadhouse restaurants.

Financial Information about Operating Segments

We consider our restaurant and franchising operations as similar and have aggregated them into a single reportable segment. The majority of the restaurants operate in the U.S. within the casual dining segment of the restaurant industry, providing similar products to similar customers. The restaurants also possess similar pricing structures, resulting in similar long-term expected financial performance characteristics. We operate each of our 294 company-owned restaurants as a single operating segment.

Narrative Description of Business

Texas Roadhouse is a full-service, casual dining restaurant chain. We offer an assortment of specially seasoned and aged steaks hand-cut daily on the premises and cooked to order over open gas-fired grills. In addition to steaks, we also offer our guests a selection of ribs, fish, seafood, chicken, pork chops, pulled pork and vegetable plates, and an assortment of hamburgers, salads and sandwiches. The majority of our entrées include two made-from-scratch side items, and we offer all our guests a free unlimited supply of roasted in-shell peanuts and made-from-scratch yeast rolls.

The operating strategy that underlies the growth of our concept is built on the following key components:

- *Offering high quality, freshly prepared food.* We place a great deal of emphasis on ensuring our guests receive high quality, freshly prepared food. We hand-cut almost all of our steaks and make all of our sides from scratch. As part of our process, we have developed proprietary recipes to provide consistency in quality and taste throughout all restaurants. We expect a management level employee to inspect every entrée before it leaves the kitchen to confirm it matches the guest's order and meets our standards for quality, appearance and presentation. In addition, we employ a team of product coaches whose function is to provide continual, hands-on training and education to our kitchen staff for the purpose of assuring uniform adherence to recipes, food preparation procedures, food safety standards, food appearance, freshness and portion size.
- *Offering performance-based manager compensation.* We offer a performance-based compensation program to our individual restaurant managers and multi-restaurant supervisors, who are called "managing partners" and "market partners," respectively. Each of these partners earns a base salary plus a performance bonus, which represents a percentage of each of their respective restaurant's pre-tax net income. By providing our partners with a significant stake in the success of our restaurants, we believe that we are able to attract and retain talented, experienced and highly motivated managing and market partners.
- *Focusing on dinner.* In a high percentage of our restaurants, we limit our operating hours to dinner only during the weekdays. By focusing on dinner, our restaurant teams have to prepare for and manage only one shift per day during the week. We believe this allows our restaurant teams to offer higher quality, more consistent food and service to our guests. In addition, we believe the dinner focus provides a better "quality-of-life" for our management teams and, therefore, is a key ingredient in attracting and retaining talented and experienced management personnel. We also focus on keeping our table-to-server ratios low to allow our servers to truly focus on their guests and serve their needs in a personal, individualized manner.
- *Offering attractive price points.* We offer our food and beverages at moderate price points that are as low as or lower than those offered by many of our competitors. Within each menu category, we offer a choice of several price points with the goal of fulfilling each guest's budget and value expectations. For example, our steak entrées, which include the choice of two side items, generally range from \$9.49 for our 6-ounce sirloin to \$24.99 for our 23 oz. Porterhouse T-bone, which is currently available in approximately one-third of our restaurants. The per guest average check for the Texas Roadhouse restaurants we owned and operated in 2011 was \$14.89. Per guest average check represents restaurant sales divided by the number of guests served. We considered each sale of an entrée to be a single guest served. Our per guest average check is higher as a result of our weekday dinner only focus.
- *Creating a fun and comfortable atmosphere.* We believe the atmosphere we establish in our restaurants is a key component for fostering repeat business. Our restaurants feature a rustic southwestern lodge décor accentuated with hand-painted murals, neon signs, and southwestern prints, rugs and artifacts. Additionally, we offer jukeboxes, which continuously play upbeat country hits, and in-house entertainment such as line dancing and birthday celebrations.

Unit Prototype and Economics

We design our restaurant prototypes to provide a relaxed atmosphere for our guests, while also focusing on restaurant-level returns over time. Our current prototypical restaurants consist of a freestanding building with approximately 6,679 to 7,079 square feet of space constructed on sites of approximately 1.7 to 2.0 acres or retail pad sites, with seating of approximately 57 to 64 tables for a

total of 245 to 281 guests, including 15 bar seats, and parking for approximately 160 vehicles either on-site or in combination with some form of off-site cross parking arrangement. Our current prototypes are adaptable to in-line and end cap locations such as spaces within an enclosed mall or a shopping center.

As of December 27, 2011, we leased 173 properties and owned 121 properties. Our 2011 average unit volume was \$3.9 million, which represents restaurant sales for all Texas Roadhouse company restaurants open before June 28, 2011. The time required for a new restaurant to reach a steady level of cash flow is approximately three to six months. Our capital investment (including cash and non-cash costs) for new restaurants varies significantly depending on a number of factors including, but not limited to: the square footage, layout, scope of any required site work, type of construction labor (union or non-union), local permitting requirements, our ability to negotiate with landlords, cost of liquor and other licenses and hook-up fees and geographical location. For 2011, the average capital investment for Texas Roadhouse restaurants developed was \$3.76 million, broken down as follows:

	Average Cost	Low	High
Land(1)	\$ 986,000	\$ 660,000	\$ 1,600,000
Building(2)	1,379,000	1,023,000	2,350,000
Furniture and Equipment	955,000	876,000	1,065,000
Pre-opening costs	420,000	332,000	507,000
Other(3)	20,000	—	280,000
Total	<u>\$ 3,760,000</u>		

- (1) Represents the average cost for land acquisitions or 10x's initial base rent in the event the land is leased.
- (2) Includes site work costs.
- (3) Primarily liquor licensing costs, where applicable. This cost varies based on the licensing requirements in each state.

Our 2011 average capital investment for restaurants developed was \$3.76 million compared to our 2010 average of \$3.74 million. Our 2010 average capital investment for restaurants developed was \$0.34 million lower compared to our 2009 average of \$4.08 million, primarily due to building design modifications and lower site work costs.

Site Selection

We continue to develop and refine our site selection process. In analyzing each prospective site, our real estate team, including our restaurant market partners, devotes significant time and resources to the evaluation of local market demographics, population density, household income levels and site-specific characteristics such as visibility, accessibility, traffic generators, proximity of other retail activities, traffic counts and parking. We work actively with real estate brokers in target markets to select high quality sites and to maintain and regularly update our database of potential sites. We typically require three to six months to locate, approve and control a restaurant site and typically four to eight additional months to obtain necessary permits. Upon receipt of permits, it requires approximately four months to construct, equip and open a restaurant.

Existing Restaurant Locations

As of December 27, 2011, we had 294 company restaurants and 72 franchise restaurants in 47 states and one foreign country as shown in the chart below.

	Number of Restaurants		
	Company	Franchise	Total
Alabama	4	—	4
Arizona	12	—	12
Arkansas	2	—	2
California	1	4	5
Colorado	12	1	13
Connecticut	2	—	2
Delaware	2	1	3
Florida	7	4	11
Georgia	3	7	10
Idaho	4	—	4
Illinois	7	2	9
Indiana	12	8	20
Iowa	8	—	8
Kansas	2	1	3
Kentucky	9	2	11
Louisiana	7	1	8
Maine	3	—	3
Maryland	3	4	7
Massachusetts	8	1	9
Michigan	8	3	11
Minnesota	3	—	3
Mississippi	1	—	1
Missouri	10	—	10
Montana	—	1	1
Nebraska	2	1	3
Nevada	1	—	1
New Hampshire	2	—	2
New Jersey	3	—	3
New Mexico	2	—	2
New York	9	—	9
North Carolina	14	—	14
North Dakota	2	1	3
Ohio	16	4	20
Oklahoma	6	—	6
Pennsylvania	16	6	22
Rhode Island	2	—	2
South Carolina	—	6	6
South Dakota	2	—	2
Tennessee	10	2	12
Texas	49	4	53
Utah	7	1	8
Vermont	1	—	1
Virginia	10	—	10
Washington	1	—	1
West Virginia	1	2	3
Wisconsin	7	4	11
Wyoming	1	—	1
Dubai, UAE	—	1	1
Total	294	72	366

Food

Menu. Texas Roadhouse restaurants offer a wide variety of menu items at attractive prices that are designed to appeal to a broad range of consumer tastes. Our dinner entrée prices generally range from \$8.99 to \$24.99, with about 15 entrées priced under \$10.00. We offer a broad assortment of specially seasoned and aged steaks, including 6, 8, 11 and 16 oz. Sirloins; 10, 12, 16 and 20 oz. Rib-eyes; 6 and 8 oz. Filets; Prime Rib; and T-Bones, almost all of which are hand-cut daily on the premises and cooked over open gas-fired grills. We also offer our guests a selection of fish, seafood, chicken, pork chops, ribs, pulled pork and vegetable plates, and an assortment of hamburgers, salads and sandwiches. Entrée prices include made-from-scratch yeast rolls and most include the choice of two of the following made-from-scratch sides: baked potato, sweet potato, steak fries, mashed potatoes, house or Caesar salad, green beans, chili, seasoned rice, baked beans, corn and steamed vegetables. Our menu allows guests to customize their meals by ordering steaks that are "smothered" either in cheese, onions, gravy or mushrooms and baked potatoes "loaded" with sour cream, cheese, bacon and butter. Other menu items include specialty appetizers such as the "Cactus Blossom®" and "Chicken Critters®" (chicken tenders). We also provide a "12 & Under" menu for children that includes sirloin steak, rib basket, Lil 'Dillo Sirloin Bites, Jr. Chicken Critters, mini-cheeseburgers, hot dog and macaroni and cheese, all served with one side item and a beverage at prices generally between \$2.99 and \$7.99.

Most of our restaurants feature a full bar that offers an extensive selection of draft and bottled beer. Managing partners are encouraged to tailor their beer selection to include regional and local brands. We serve a selection of major brands of liquor and wine as well as margaritas. Alcoholic beverages accounted for 10.7% of restaurant sales at Texas Roadhouse in fiscal 2011.

We have maintained a fairly consistent menu over time, with a selection of approximately 60 entrees and 90 total menu items. We continually review our menu to consider enhancements to existing menu items or the introduction of new items. We change our menu only after guest feedback and an extensive study of the operational and economic implications. To maintain our high levels of food quality and service, we generally remove one menu item for every new menu item introduced so as to facilitate our ability to execute high quality meals on a focused range of menu items.

Food Quality and Safety. We are committed to serving a varied menu of high-quality, great tasting food items with an emphasis on freshness. We have developed proprietary recipes to ensure consistency in quality and taste throughout all restaurants and provide a unique flavor experience to our guests. At each restaurant, a fully trained meat cutter hand cuts our steaks and other restaurant team members prepare all side items and yeast rolls from scratch in the restaurants daily. We assign individual kitchen employees to the preparation of designated food items in order to focus on quality, consistency and speed. Additionally, we expect a management level employee to inspect every entrée before it leaves the kitchen to confirm it matches the guest's order and meets our standards for quality, appearance and presentation.

We employ a team of product coaches whose function is to provide continual, hands-on training and education to the kitchen staff in all Texas Roadhouse restaurants for the purpose of reinforcing the uniformity of recipes, food preparation procedures, food safety standards, food appearance, freshness and portion size. The team currently consists of over 35 product coaches, supporting all Texas Roadhouse restaurants system-wide.

Food safety is of utmost importance to us. We currently utilize several programs to help ensure adherence to proper food preparation procedures and food safety standards. We have a Product Quality team whose function, in conjunction with our product coaches, is to develop, enforce and maintain programs designed to promote compliance with food safety guidelines. Where required, food items purchased from qualified vendors have been inspected by reputable, outside inspection services confirming that the vendor is compliant with FDA and USDA guidelines.

We perform sanitation audits on each restaurant four times a year and these results are reviewed by various members of operations and management. To reinforce the importance of food safety, we have printed all HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Points) in bold type on each recipe. In addition, most of our product coaches have obtained or are in the process of obtaining their food safety professional designation.

Purchasing. Our purchasing philosophy is designed to consistently supply fresh, quality products to the restaurants at competitive prices while maximizing operating efficiencies. We negotiate directly with suppliers for substantially all food and beverage products to ensure consistent quality and freshness and obtain competitive prices. Certain products, such as dairy products and select produce, are purchased locally to assure freshness.

Food and supplies are ordered by, and shipped directly to, the restaurants, as we do not maintain a central product warehouse or commissary. Most food products used in the operation of our restaurants are distributed to individual restaurants through an independent national distribution company. We strive to qualify more than one supplier for all key food items and believe that beef of comparable quality as well as all other essential food and beverage products are available, upon short notice, from alternative qualified suppliers.

Service

Guest Satisfaction. We believe that guest satisfaction and our ability to continually evaluate and improve the guest experience at each of our restaurants is important to our success. Through the use of guest surveys, our website "texasroadhouse.com," a toll-free guest response telephone line and personal interaction in the restaurant, we receive valuable feedback from guests. Additionally, we employ an outside service to administer a "Secret Shopper" program whereby trained individuals periodically dine and comprehensively evaluate the guest experience at each of our restaurants. Particular attention is given to food, beverage and service quality, cleanliness, staff attitude and teamwork, and manager visibility and interaction. The resulting reports are used for follow up training feedback to both staff and management. We continue to evaluate and implement processes relating to guest satisfaction, including reducing guest wait times and improving host interaction with the guest.

Atmosphere. The atmosphere of Texas Roadhouse restaurants is intended to appeal to broad segments of the population, children, families, couples, adults and business persons. Substantially all Texas Roadhouse restaurants are of our prototype design, reflecting a rustic southwestern lodge atmosphere, featuring an exterior of rough-hewn cedar siding and corrugated metal. The interiors feature pine floors and stained concrete and are decorated with hand-painted murals, neon signs, southwestern prints, rugs and artifacts. The restaurants contain jukeboxes that continuously play upbeat country hits. Guests may also view a display-baking area where our made-from-scratch yeast rolls are prepared and a meat cooler displaying fresh cut steaks, and may wait for seating in either a spacious, comfortable waiting area or a southwestern style bar. While waiting for a table, guests can enjoy complimentary roasted in-shell peanuts. Immediately upon being seated at a table, guests can enjoy made-from-scratch yeast rolls along with roasted in-shell peanuts.

People

Management and Employees. Each of our restaurants is generally staffed with one managing partner, one kitchen manager and one service manager, and, in most cases, one or more additional assistant managers and/or key employees. Managing partners are single restaurant operators who have primary responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the entire restaurant and are responsible for maintaining the standards of quality and performance we establish. We use market partners to supervise the operation of our restaurants including the continuing development of each restaurant's management team. Market partners also assist in the new restaurant site selection process. Generally,

each market partner has supervisory responsibilities for up to 8 to 13 restaurants. Through regular visits to the restaurants, the market partners ensure adherence to all aspects of our concept, strategy and standards of quality. To further assure adherence to our standards of quality and to achieve uniform execution throughout the system, we employ product coaches who regularly visit the restaurants to assist in training of both new and existing employees and to grade food quality. The attentive service and high quality food, which results from each restaurant having a managing partner, two to three managers and the hands-on assistance of a product coach, are critical to our success.

Training and Development. All restaurant employees are required to complete varying degrees of training before and during employment. Our detailed training program emphasizes our operating strategy, procedures and standards and is conducted individually at Texas Roadhouse restaurants and in groups in Louisville, Kentucky.

Our managing and market partners are generally required to have significant experience in the full-service restaurant industry and are generally hired at a minimum of nine to 12 months before their placement in a new or existing restaurant to allow time to fully train in all aspects of restaurant operations. All managing partners, kitchen and service managers and other management team members are required to complete a comprehensive training program of up to 17 weeks, which includes training for every position in the restaurant. Trainees are validated at pre-determined points during their training by either the market partner, product coach or a training manager.

A number of our restaurants have been certified as training centers by our training department. This certification confirms that the training center adheres to established operating procedures and guidelines. Additionally, most restaurants are staffed with training coordinators responsible for ongoing daily training needs.

For new restaurant openings, a full team of designated trainers, each specializing in a specific restaurant position, is deployed to the restaurant at least ten days before opening. Formal employee training begins seven days before opening, and follows a uniform, comprehensive training course as directed by a training manager.

Marketing

Our marketing strategy aims to promote the Texas Roadhouse brand, while retaining a localized focus, to:

- increase comparable restaurant sales by increasing the frequency of visits by our current guests and attracting new guests to our restaurants;
- support new restaurant openings to achieve restaurant sales and operating margin goals; and
- communicate and promote our brand's food quality, the guest experience and value.

We accomplish these objectives through three major initiatives.

In-restaurant Marketing. A significant portion of our marketing fund is spent in communicating with our guests while they are in our restaurants through point of purchase materials. We believe special promotions such as Valentine's Day and Mother's Day drive significant repeat business. Also, our eight week holiday gift card campaign is one of our most significant promotions. In addition, our mascot, "Andy Armadillo®", provides our guests with a familiar and easily identifiable face.

Local Restaurant Area Marketing. Given our strategy to be a neighborhood destination, local area marketing is integral in developing brand awareness in each market. To enhance our visibility in new markets, we deliver free food to local businesses in connection with new restaurant openings and on an ongoing basis to drive awareness. Managing partners are encouraged to participate in creative community-based marketing, such as hosting local radio or television programs. We also engage in a variety of promotional activities, such as contributing time, money and complimentary meals to charitable, civic and cultural programs. For instance, our involvement with the Special Olympics, a local Little League baseball team, a local church or the Armed Forces, shows our "Legendary Care, Concern and Support" for our communities. We leverage the corresponding recognition in our public relations and marketing efforts to communicate our corporate values and mission statement to our guests. We employ marketing coordinators at the restaurant and market level to develop and execute the majority of the local marketing strategies.

Advertising. Our restaurant concept does not rely on national advertising to promote the brand. We utilize public relations to generate "earned media" story placement in local, regional and national media. Our concept also uses a permission-based e-mail loyalty program to promote our brand and our growing social media strategy provides us the opportunity to frequently communicate with our guests. This approach aligns with our focus on local store marketing and community involvement.

Restaurant Franchise Arrangements

Franchise Restaurants. As of December 27, 2011, we had 19 franchisees that operated 72 restaurants in 24 states and one foreign country. Franchise rights are granted for specific restaurants only, as we have not granted any rights to develop a territory in the United States. Approximately 75% of our franchise restaurants are operated by eight franchisees. No franchisee operates more than 16 restaurants.

Our standard domestic franchise agreement has a term of ten years with two renewal options for an additional five years each if certain conditions are satisfied. Our current form of franchise agreement requires the franchisee to pay a royalty fee of 4.0% of gross sales. The royalty fee varies depending on when the agreements were entered into and range from 2.0% of gross sales to the current 4.0% fee. We may, at our discretion, waive or reduce the royalty fee on a temporary or permanent basis. "Gross sales" means the total selling price of all services and products related to the restaurant. Gross sales do not include:

- employee discounts or other discounts;
- tips or gratuities paid directly to employees by guests;
- any federal, state, municipal or other sales, value added or retailer's excise taxes; or
- adjustments for net returns on salable goods and discounts allowed to guests on sales.

Domestic franchisees are currently required to pay 0.3% of gross sales to a national advertising and marketing fund for the development of advertising materials, system-wide promotions and related marketing efforts. We have the ability under our agreements to increase the required national advertising and marketing fund contribution up to 2.5% of gross sales. We may also charge a marketing fee of 0.5% of gross sales, which we may use for market research and to develop system-wide promotional and advertising materials. A franchisee's total required advertising contribution or spending will not be more than 3.0% of gross sales.

Our standard domestic franchise agreement gives us the right, but not the obligation, to compel a franchisee to transfer its assets to us in exchange for shares of our stock, or to convert its equity interests into shares of our stock. The amount of shares that a franchisee would receive is based on a formula that is included in the franchise agreement.

We have entered into one area development and franchise agreement for the development of restaurants in eight countries in the Middle East over ten years. Our franchisee is required to pay us a franchise fee for each restaurant to be opened, royalties on the gross sales of each restaurant and a development fee for our grant of development rights in the named countries. The term of the agreement may be extended, and the franchisee has rights to expand into additional countries. We anticipate that the specific business terms of any future franchise agreement for international restaurants might vary significantly from the standard terms of our domestic agreements and from the terms of the single existing international agreement, depending on the territory to be franchised and the extent of franchisor-provided services to each franchisee.

Any of our franchise agreements, whether domestic or international, may be terminated if the franchisee defaults in the performance of any of its obligations under the franchise agreement, including its obligations to operate the restaurant in strict accordance with our standards and specifications. A franchise agreement may also be terminated if a franchisee becomes insolvent, fails to make its required payments, creates a threat to the public health or safety, ceases to operate the restaurant, or misuses the Texas Roadhouse trademarks.

Franchise Compliance Assurance. We have various systems in place to promote compliance with our systems and standards, both during the development and operating of franchise restaurants. We actively work with our franchisees to support successful franchise operations as well as compliance with the Texas Roadhouse standards and procedures. During the restaurant development phase, we approve the selection of restaurant sites and make available copies of our prototype building plans to franchisees. In addition, we ensure that the building design is in compliance with our standards. We provide training to the managing partner and up to three other managers of a franchisee's first restaurant. We also provide trainers to assist in the opening of every domestic franchise restaurant; we provide trainers to assist our international franchisees in the opening of their restaurants until such time as they develop an approved restaurant opening training program. Finally, on an ongoing basis, we conduct reviews on all franchise restaurants to determine their level of effectiveness in executing our concept at a variety of operational levels. Our franchisees are required to follow the same standards and procedures regarding equipment, food purchases and food preparation as we maintain in our company restaurants. Reviews are conducted by seasoned operations teams, and focus on key areas including health, safety and execution proficiency.

To continuously improve our communications with franchisees and the consistency of the brand, we maintain a business development council that includes representatives of our domestic franchisees, company operations personnel and vendors. The council's functions are advisory. Its members review and comment on proposed advertising campaigns and materials and budget expenditures, as well as operational initiatives. Our regional market partners also provide support to our domestic franchise restaurant operators.

Management Services. We provide management services to 22 of the franchise restaurants in which we and/or our founder have an ownership interest. Such management services include accounting, operational supervision, human resources, training, and food, beverage and equipment consulting for which we receive monthly fees of up to 2.5% of gross sales. We also make available to these restaurants certain legal services through outside sources and restaurant employees and employee benefits on a pass-through cost basis. In addition, we receive a monthly fee from four franchise restaurants for providing payroll and accounting services.

Management Information Systems and Restaurant Reporting

All of our company restaurants utilize computerized management information systems, which are designed to improve operating efficiencies, provide restaurant and Support Center management with timely access to financial and operating data and reduce administrative time and expense. With our

current information systems, we have the ability to query, report and analyze this intelligent data on a daily, weekly, period, quarter and year-to-date basis and beyond, on a company-wide, regional or individual restaurant basis. Together, this enables us to closely monitor sales, food and beverage costs and labor and operating expenses at each of our restaurants. We have a number of systems and reports that provide comparative information that enables both restaurant and Support Center management to supervise the financial and operational performance of our restaurants and to recognize and understand trends in the business. Our accounting department uses a standard, integrated system to prepare monthly profit and loss statements, which provides a detailed analysis of sales and costs. These monthly profit and loss statements are compared both to the restaurant-prepared reports and to prior periods. Currently, we utilize cable, digital subscriber lines (DSL) or T-1 technology at the restaurant level, which serves as a high-speed, secure communication link between the restaurants and our Support Center as well as our credit and gift card processor.

Competition

According to the National Restaurant Association, or NRA, restaurant industry sales in 2012 will represent approximately 4% of the United States' gross domestic product. The NRA also forecasts that restaurant industry sales will reach \$632 billion in 2012 and will encompass approximately 970,000 restaurants.

Competition in the restaurant industry is intense. Texas Roadhouse restaurants compete with mid-priced, full-service, casual dining restaurants primarily on the basis of taste, quality and price of the food offered, service, atmosphere, location and overall dining experience. Our competitors include a large and diverse group of restaurants that range from independent local operators to well-capitalized national restaurant chains. Although we believe that we compete favorably with respect to each of the above factors, other restaurants operate with concepts that compete for the same casual dining guests as we do. We also compete with other restaurants and retail establishments for quality site locations and restaurant-level employees.

Trademarks

Our registered trademarks and service marks include, among others, our trade names and our stylized logos. We have registered all of our significant marks with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. We have registered or have registrations pending for our most significant trademarks and service marks in 23 foreign jurisdictions including the European Union. To better protect our brand, we have also registered various Internet domain names. We believe that our trademarks, service marks and other proprietary rights have significant value and are important to our brand-building efforts and the marketing of our restaurant concepts.

Government Regulation

We are subject to a variety of federal, state and local laws. Each of our restaurants is subject to permitting, licensing and regulation by a number of government authorities relating to alcoholic beverage control, health, safety, sanitation, building and fire codes, and to compliance with the applicable zoning, land use and environmental laws and regulations. Difficulties in obtaining or failure to obtain required licenses or approvals could delay or prevent the development of a new restaurant in a particular area.

In 2011, the sale of alcoholic beverages accounted for 10.7% of our restaurant sales. Alcoholic beverage control regulations require each of our restaurants to apply to a state authority and, in certain locations, county or municipal authorities, for a license that must be renewed annually and may be revoked or suspended for cause at any time. Alcoholic beverage control regulations affect numerous aspects of restaurant operations, including minimum age of patrons and employees, hours of operation,

advertising, wholesale purchasing, inventory control and handling, storage and dispensing of alcoholic beverages.

The failure of a restaurant to obtain or retain liquor or food service licenses would have a material adverse effect on the restaurant's operations. To reduce this risk, each company restaurant is operated in accordance with procedures intended to assure compliance with applicable codes and regulations.

We are subject in certain states to "dram shop" statutes, which generally provide a person injured by an intoxicated person the right to recover damages from an establishment that wrongfully served alcoholic beverages to the intoxicated person. We carry liquor liability coverage as part of our existing comprehensive general liability insurance, as well as excess umbrella coverage of \$100.0 million, with a \$10,000 deductible for the first \$25.0 million of excess coverage.

Our restaurant operations are also subject to federal and state laws governing such matters as the minimum hourly wage, minimum tipped wage, unemployment tax rates, sales tax and similar matters, over which we have no control. Significant numbers of our service, food preparation and other personnel are paid at rates related to the federal minimum wage (which currently is \$7.25 per hour) or federal tipped wage (which currently is \$2.13 per hour). In addition, numerous states in which we operate have passed legislation governing the applicable state minimum hourly and/or tipped wage. Further planned and unplanned increases in federal and/or state minimum hourly and tipped wages or state unemployment tax rates will increase our labor costs.

Seasonality

Our business is subject to minor seasonal fluctuations. Historically, sales in most of our restaurants have been higher during the winter months of each year.

Employees

As of December 27, 2011, we employed approximately 33,000 people, of whom 393 were executive and administrative personnel, 1,330 were restaurant management personnel and the remainder were hourly restaurant personnel. Many of our hourly restaurant employees work part-time. None of our employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

Executive Officers of the Company

Set forth below are the name, age, position and a brief account of the business experience of each of our executive officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position</u>
W. Kent Taylor	56	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Scott M. Colosi	47	President
Steven L. Ortiz	54	Chief Operating Officer
G. Price Cooper, IV	40	Chief Financial Officer
Jill Marchant	46	General Counsel

W. Kent Taylor. Mr. Taylor is the founder of Texas Roadhouse and resumed his role as Chief Executive Officer in August 2011, a position he held between May 2000 and October 2004. He was named Chairman of the Company and Board in October 2004. He previously served as Chief Executive Officer between May 2000 and October 2004. Before his founding of our concept, Mr. Taylor founded and co-owned Buckhead Bar and Grill in Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Taylor has over 25 years of experience in the restaurant industry.

Scott M. Colosi. Mr. Colosi was appointed President in August 2011. Previously, Mr. Colosi served as our Chief Financial Officer since September 2002. From 1992 until September 2002, Mr. Colosi was employed by YUM! Brands, Inc., owner of KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell brands. During this time, Mr. Colosi served in various financial positions and, immediately prior to joining us, was Director of Investor Relations. Mr. Colosi has over 20 years of experience in the restaurant industry.

Steven L. Ortiz. Mr. Ortiz has served as our Executive Vice President of Operations since May 2001. Upon the completion of the initial public offering, Mr. Ortiz became Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Ortiz joined our company in 1996 as a Market Partner in which capacity he was responsible for developing and starting new Texas Roadhouse restaurants in Texas. From 1982 to 1996, Mr. Ortiz was employed by Bennigan's Restaurants in various capacities, including General Manager, Area Director and Regional Vice President. Mr. Ortiz has over 25 years of experience in the restaurant industry.

G. Price Cooper, IV. Mr. Cooper was appointed Chief Financial Officer in August 2011. Previously, Mr. Cooper served as our Vice President of Finance since August 2006. From 1998 to 2006, Mr. Cooper was employed by Ruby Tuesday, Inc. During this time, Mr. Cooper held various positions in finance, planning and accounting and, immediately prior to joining us, was Vice President of Investor Relations and Planning. Mr. Cooper is a Certified Public Accountant with over 18 years of finance and accounting experience, including 14 years of experience in the restaurant industry.

Jill Marchant. Ms. Marchant joined our company in August 2011 and was appointed General Counsel in December 2011. Prior to joining Texas Roadhouse, Ms. Marchant served as Associate General Counsel for DineEquity, Inc., the parent company for Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar and IHOP Restaurants. Ms. Marchant worked for 12 years at Honeywell Federal Manufacturing and Technologies. Ms. Marchant has over 20 years of legal experience, including 7 years of experience in the restaurant industry.

Website Access To Reports

We make our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports, filed or furnished pursuant to section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, available, free of charge on or through the Internet website, www.texasroadhouse.com, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

From time to time in annual reports and oral statements, and in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we present statements about future events and expectations that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements are based on our beliefs, assumptions and expectations of our future financial and operating performance and growth plans, taking into account the information currently available to us. These statements are not statements of historical fact. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations of future results we express or imply in any forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially include, but are not limited to, those discussed below.

Risks Related to Our Business

If we fail to manage our growth effectively, it could harm our business.

Failure to manage our growth effectively could harm our business. We have grown significantly since our inception and intend to continue growing in the future. Our existing restaurant management systems, financial and management controls and information systems may not be adequate to support our planned expansion. Our ability to manage our growth effectively will require us to continue to enhance these systems, procedures and controls and to locate, hire, train and retain management and operating personnel. We cannot assure you that we will be able to respond on a timely basis to all of the changing demands that our planned expansion will impose on management and on our existing infrastructure. If we are unable to manage our growth effectively, our business and operating results could be materially adversely impacted.

You should not rely on past changes in our average unit volumes or our comparable restaurant sales as an indication of our future results of operations because they may fluctuate significantly.

A number of factors have historically affected, and will continue to affect, our average unit volumes and comparable restaurant sales, including, among other factors:

- our ability to execute our business strategy effectively;
- unusually strong initial sales performance by new restaurants;
- competition;
- weather and acts of God;
- consumer trends;
- introduction of new menu items; and
- general regional, national and global economic conditions.

Our average unit volumes and comparable restaurant sales may not increase at rates achieved in the past. Changes in our average unit volumes and comparable restaurant sales could cause the price of our common stock to fluctuate substantially.

Our growth strategy, which primarily depends on our ability to open new restaurants that are profitable, is subject to many factors, some of which are beyond our control.

Our objective is to grow our business and increase stockholder value by (1) expanding our base of company restaurants (and, to a lesser extent, franchise restaurants) that are profitable and (2) increasing sales and profits at existing restaurants. While both these methods of achieving our objective are important to us, historically the most significant means of achieving our objective has been through opening new restaurants and operating these restaurants on a profitable basis. We expect this to continue to be the case in the future.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to open new restaurants in accordance with our expansion plans. We have experienced delays in opening some of our restaurants in the past and may experience delays in the future. Delays or failures in opening new restaurants could materially adversely affect our growth strategy. One of our biggest challenges in executing our growth strategy is locating and securing an adequate supply of suitable new restaurant sites. Competition for suitable restaurant sites in our target markets is intense and we cannot assure you that we will be able to find sufficient suitable locations, or suitable purchase or lease terms, for our planned expansion in any future period.

Our ability to open new restaurants will also depend on numerous other factors, some of which are beyond our control, including, but not limited to, the following:

- our ability to hire, train and retain qualified operating personnel, especially market partners and managing partners;
- the availability of construction materials and labor;
- our ability to control construction and development costs of new restaurants;
- our ability to secure required governmental approvals and permits in a timely manner, or at all;
- our ability to secure liquor licenses;
- general economic conditions;
- the cost and availability of capital to fund construction costs and pre-opening expenses; and
- weather and acts of God.

Once opened, we anticipate that our new restaurants will generally take several months to reach planned operating levels due to start-up inefficiencies typically associated with new restaurants. We cannot assure you that any restaurant we open will be profitable or obtain operating results similar to those of our existing restaurants. Our ability to operate new restaurants profitably will depend on numerous factors, including those discussed above impacting our average unit volumes and comparable restaurant sales, some of which are beyond our control, including, but not limited to, the following:

- competition;
- consumer acceptance of our restaurants in new domestic or international markets;
- the ability of the market partner and the managing partner to execute our business strategy at the new restaurant;
- general regional, national and global economic conditions;
- changes in government regulation;
- road construction and other factors limiting access to the restaurant; and
- weather and acts of God.

Our failure to successfully open new restaurants that are profitable in accordance with our growth strategy could harm our business and future prospects.

Our objective to increase sales and profits at existing restaurants could be adversely affected by macroeconomic conditions.

During 2012 and possibly beyond, the U.S. and global economies may continue to suffer from a downturn in economic activity. Recessionary economic cycles, higher interest rates, higher fuel and other energy costs, inflation, increases in commodity prices, higher levels of unemployment, higher consumer debt levels, higher tax rates and other changes in tax laws or other economic factors that may affect consumer spending or buying habits could adversely affect the demand for our products. As in the past, we could experience reduced guest traffic or we may be unable or unwilling to increase the prices we can charge for our products to offset higher costs or fewer transactions, either of which could reduce our sales and profit margins. Also, landlords or other tenants in the shopping centers in which some of our restaurants are located may experience difficulty as a result of macroeconomic trends or cease to operate, which could in turn negatively affect guest traffic at our restaurants. All of these factors could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations.

Our franchisees could take actions that could harm our business.

Our franchisees are contractually obligated to operate their restaurants in accordance with Texas Roadhouse standards. We also provide training and support to franchisees. However, most franchisees are independent third parties that we do not control, and these franchisees own, operate and oversee the daily operations of their restaurants. As a result, the ultimate success and quality of any franchise restaurant rests with the franchisee. If franchisees do not successfully operate restaurants in a manner consistent with our standards, the Texas Roadhouse image and reputation could be harmed, which in turn could adversely affect our business and operating results.

Our quarterly operating results may fluctuate significantly and could fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors due to a number of factors, some of which are beyond our control, resulting in a decline in our stock price.

Our quarterly operating results may fluctuate significantly because of several factors, including:

- the timing of new restaurant openings and related expenses;
- restaurant operating costs for our newly-opened restaurants, which are often materially greater during the first several months of operation than thereafter;
- labor availability and costs for hourly and management personnel including mandated changes in federal and/or state minimum and tip wage rates, state unemployment tax rates, or health benefits;
- profitability of our restaurants, especially in new markets;
- changes in interest rates;
- increases and decreases in average unit volumes and comparable restaurant sales;
- impairment of long-lived assets, including goodwill, and any loss on restaurant closures;
- general economic conditions, globally, nationally and locally;
- negative publicity relating to the consumption of beef or other products we serve;
- changes in consumer preferences and competitive conditions;
- expansion to new domestic or international markets;
- adverse weather conditions which impact guest traffic at our restaurants;
- increases in infrastructure costs;
- fluctuations in commodity prices;
- competitive actions; and
- weather and acts of God.

Our business is also subject to minor seasonal fluctuations. Historically, sales in most of our restaurants have been higher during the winter months of each year. As a result, our quarterly operating results and comparable restaurant sales may fluctuate as a result of seasonality. Accordingly, results for any one quarter are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for any other quarter or for any year and comparable restaurant sales for any particular future period may decrease. In the future, operating results may fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors. In that event, the price of our common stock would likely decrease.

If we lose the services of any of our key management personnel, our business could suffer.

Our future success significantly depends on the continued services and performance of our key management personnel, particularly our executive officers. Our future performance will depend on our ability to motivate and retain these and other key officers and managers, particularly regional market partners, market partners and managing partners. Competition for these employees is intense. The loss of the services of members of our senior management team or other key officers or managers or the inability to attract additional qualified personnel as needed could materially harm our business.

Our failure or inability to enforce our trademarks or other proprietary rights could adversely affect our competitive position or the value of our brand.

We own certain common law trademark rights and a number of federal and international trademark and service mark registrations, including our trade names and logos, and proprietary rights relating to certain of our core menu offerings. We believe that our trademarks and other proprietary rights are important to our success and our competitive position. We, therefore, devote appropriate resources to the protection of our trademarks and proprietary rights. The protective actions that we take, however, may not be enough to prevent unauthorized usage or imitation by others, which could harm our image, brand or competitive position and, if we commence litigation to enforce our rights, cause us to incur significant legal fees. Our inability to register or protect our marks and other propriety rights in foreign jurisdictions could adversely affect our competitive position in international markets.

We cannot assure you that third parties will not claim that our trademarks or menu offerings infringe upon their proprietary rights. Any such claim, whether or not it has merit, could be time-consuming, result in costly litigation, cause delays in introducing new menu items in the future or require us to enter into royalty or licensing agreements. As a result, any such claim could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or liquidity.

We may need additional capital in the future and it may not be available on acceptable terms.

The development of our business may require significant additional capital in the future to, among other things, fund our operations and growth strategy. We may rely on bank financing and also may seek access to the debt and/or equity capital markets. There can be no assurance, however, that these sources of financing will be available on terms favorable to us, or at all. Our ability to obtain additional financing will be subject to a number of factors, including market conditions, our operating performance, investor sentiment and our ability to incur additional debt in compliance with agreements governing our outstanding debt. These factors may make the timing, amount, terms and conditions of additional financings unattractive to us. If we are unable to raise additional capital, our growth could be impeded.

Our existing credit facility limits our ability to incur additional debt.

The lenders' obligation to extend credit under the facility depends on our maintaining certain financial covenants, including a minimum consolidated fixed charge coverage ratio of 2.00 to 1.00 and a maximum consolidated leverage ratio of 3.00 to 1.00. If we are unable to maintain these ratios, we would be unable to obtain additional financing under this facility. The credit facility permits us to incur additional secured or unsecured indebtedness outside the facility, except for the incurrence of secured indebtedness that in the aggregate exceeds 20% of our consolidated tangible net worth or circumstances where the incurrence of secured or unsecured indebtedness would prevent us from complying with our financial covenants.

We have also entered into other loan agreements with other lenders to finance various restaurants which impose financial covenants that are less restrictive than those imposed by our existing credit facility. A default under these loan agreements could result in a default under our existing credit facility, which in turn would limit our ability to secure additional funds under that facility. As of December 27, 2011, we were in compliance with all of our lenders' covenants.

We may be required to record additional impairment charges in the future.

In accordance with accounting guidance as it relates to the impairment of long-lived assets, we make certain estimates and projections with regard to company-owned restaurant operations, as well as our overall performance in connection with our impairment analyses for long-lived assets. When impairment triggers are deemed to exist for any given company-owned restaurant, the estimated undiscounted future cash flows for the restaurant are compared to its carrying value. If the carrying value materially exceeds the undiscounted cash flows, an impairment charge would be recorded equal to the difference between the carrying value and the estimated fair value.

We also review the value of our goodwill and other intangible assets on an annual basis and when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of goodwill or other intangible assets may exceed the fair value of such assets. The estimates of fair value are based upon the best information available as of the date of the assessment and incorporate management assumptions about expected future cash flows and contemplate other valuation measurements and techniques.

The estimates of fair value used in these analyses require the use of judgment, certain assumptions and estimates of future operating results. If actual results differ from our estimates or assumptions, additional impairment charges may be required in the future. If impairment charges are significant, our results of operations could be adversely affected.

The acquisition of existing restaurants from our franchisees and licensees and other strategic transactions may have unanticipated consequences that could harm our business and our financial condition.

We plan to opportunistically acquire existing restaurants from our franchisees or licensees over time. Additionally, from time to time, we evaluate potential mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures or other strategic initiatives to acquire or develop additional concepts. To successfully execute any acquisition or development strategy, we will need to identify suitable acquisition or development candidates, negotiate acceptable acquisition or development terms and obtain appropriate financing. Any acquisition or future development that we pursue, whether or not successfully completed, may involve risks, including:

- material adverse effects on our operating results, particularly in the fiscal quarters immediately following the acquisition or development as the restaurants are integrated into our operations;
- risks associated with entering into new domestic or international markets or conducting operations where we have no or limited prior experience;
- risks inherent in accurately assessing the value, future growth potential, strengths, weaknesses, contingent and other liabilities and potential profitability of acquisition candidates, and our ability to achieve projected economic and operating synergies; and
- the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns.

Future acquisitions of existing restaurants from our franchisees or licensees or other strategic partners, which may be accomplished through a cash purchase transaction, the issuance of shares of common stock or a combination of both, could have a dilutive impact on holders of our common stock, and result in the incurrence of debt and contingent liabilities and impairment charges related to goodwill and other tangible and intangible assets, any of which could harm our business and financial condition. The development of additional concepts and/or the entrance into international markets may not be as successful as our experience in the development of the Texas Roadhouse concept domestically. Development rates for newer brands may differ significantly as there is increased risk in the development of a new restaurant concept or system.

Approximately 16.7% of our company restaurants are located in Texas and, as a result, we are sensitive to economic and other trends and developments in that state.

As of December 27, 2011, we operated a total of 49 company restaurants in Texas. As a result, we are particularly susceptible to adverse trends and economic conditions in this state, including its labor market. In addition, given our geographic concentration in this state, negative publicity regarding any of our restaurants in Texas could have a material adverse effect on our business and operations, as could other occurrences in Texas such as local strikes, energy shortages or increases in energy prices, droughts, earthquakes, fires or other natural disasters.

Our expansion into new domestic and/or international markets may present increased risks due to our unfamiliarity with the area.

Some of our new restaurants will be located in areas where we have little or no meaningful experience. Those markets may have different competitive conditions, consumer tastes and discretionary spending patterns than our existing markets, which may cause our new restaurants to be less successful than restaurants in our existing markets. An additional risk of expanding into new markets is the lack of market awareness of our brands. Restaurants opened in new markets may open at lower average weekly sales volumes than restaurants opened in existing markets and may have higher restaurant-level operating expense ratios than in existing markets. Sales at restaurants opened in new markets may take longer to reach average unit volumes, if at all, thereby affecting our overall profitability.

Risks Relating to the Food Service Industry

Our business is affected by changes in consumer preferences and discretionary spending.

Our success depends, in part, upon the popularity of our food products. Shifts in consumer preferences away from our restaurants or cuisine, particularly beef, would harm our business. Also, our success depends to a significant extent on discretionary consumer spending, which is influenced by general economic conditions and the availability of discretionary income. Accordingly, we may experience declines in sales during economic downturns or during periods of uncertainty. Any material decline in the amount of discretionary spending could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or liquidity.

Our success depends on our ability to compete with many food service businesses.

The restaurant industry is intensely competitive and we compete with many well-established food service companies on the basis of taste, quality and price of products offered, guest service, atmosphere, location and overall guest experience. Our competitors include a large and diverse group of restaurant chains and individual restaurants that range from independent local operators that have opened restaurants in various markets to well-capitalized national restaurant companies. Many of our competitors or potential competitors have substantially greater financial and other resources than we do, which may allow them to react to changes in pricing, marketing and the casual dining segment of the restaurant industry better than we can. As our competitors expand their operations, we expect competition to intensify. We also compete with other restaurant chains and other retail businesses for quality site locations and hourly employees.

Changes in food and supply costs could adversely affect our results of operations.

Our profitability depends in part on our ability to anticipate and react to changes in food and supply costs. Any increase in food prices, particularly proteins, could adversely affect our operating results. In addition, we are susceptible to increases in food costs as a result of factors beyond our control, such as weather conditions, food safety concerns, product recalls, global market and trade conditions, and government regulations. We cannot predict whether we will be able to anticipate and

react to changing food costs by adjusting our purchasing practices and menu prices, and a failure to do so could adversely affect our operating results. In addition, because we provide a moderately priced product, we may not seek to or be able to pass along price increases to our guests. Also, if we adjust pricing there is no assurance that we will realize the full benefit of any adjustment due to changes in our guests' menu item selections and guest traffic.

We currently purchase the majority of our beef from three of the largest beef suppliers in the country under annual contracts. While we maintain relationships with additional suppliers, if any of these vendors were unable to fulfill its obligations under its contracts, we could encounter supply shortages and incur higher costs to secure adequate supplies, either of which would harm our business.

The food service industry is affected by litigation and publicity concerning food quality, health and other issues, which can cause guests to avoid our restaurants and result in significant liabilities or litigation costs.

Food service businesses can be adversely affected by litigation and complaints from guests, consumer groups or government authorities resulting from food quality, illness, injury or other health concerns or operating issues stemming from one restaurant or a limited number of restaurants. Adverse publicity about these allegations may negatively affect us, regardless of whether the allegations are true, by discouraging guests from eating at our restaurants. We could also incur significant liabilities if a lawsuit or claim results in a decision against us or litigation costs regardless of the result.

Health concerns relating to the consumption of beef or other food products could affect consumer preferences and could negatively impact our results of operations.

Like other restaurant chains, consumer preferences could be affected by health concerns about the consumption of beef, the key ingredient in many of our menu items, or negative publicity concerning food quality, illness and injury in general. In recent years there has been negative publicity concerning e-coli, hepatitis A, "mad cow," "foot-and-mouth" disease and "bird flu." The restaurant industry has also been subject to a growing number of claims that the menus and actions of restaurant chains have led to the obesity of certain of their guests, resulting in legislation in some jurisdictions which require nutritional information to be disclosed to guests. Nutritional labeling could be enacted in many additional states, counties or cities as well as on a federal level. Nutritional labeling requirements and negative publicity concerning any of the food products we serve may adversely affect demand for our food and could result in a decrease in guest traffic to our restaurants. If we react to the labeling requirements or negative publicity by changing our concept or our menu offerings or their ingredients, we may lose guests who do not prefer the new concept or products, and we may not be able to attract sufficient new guests to produce the revenue needed to make our restaurants profitable. In addition, we may have different or additional competitors for our intended guests as a result of a change in our concept and may not be able to compete successfully against those competitors. A decrease in guest traffic to our restaurants as a result of these health concerns or negative publicity or as a result of a change in our menu or concept could materially harm our business.

Health concerns arising from outbreaks of viruses may have an adverse effect on our business.

The United States and other countries have experienced, or may experience in the future, outbreaks of viruses, such as Avian Flu, SARS and H1N1. To the extent that a virus is food-borne, future outbreaks may adversely affect the price and availability of certain food products and cause our guests to eat less of a product. To the extent that a virus is transmitted by human-to-human contact, our employees or guests could become infected, or could choose, or be advised, to avoid gathering in public places, any one of which could adversely affect our business.

Our business could be adversely affected by increased labor costs or labor shortages.

Labor is a primary component in the cost of operating our business. We devote significant resources to recruiting and training our managers and hourly employees. Increased labor costs due to competition, unionization, increased minimum and tip wage, state unemployment rates or employee benefits costs or otherwise, would adversely impact our operating expenses. The federal government and numerous states have enacted legislation resulting in tip and/or minimum wage increases as well as pre-determined future increases. We anticipate that additional legislation will be enacted in future periods, including some legislation regarding health care benefits. In addition, a shortage in the labor pool or other general inflationary pressures or changes could also increase our labor costs. Our operating expenses will be adversely affected to the extent that we are not able or are unwilling to offset these costs through higher prices on our products.

Moreover, we could suffer from significant indirect costs, including restaurant disruptions due to management or hourly labor turnover and potential delays in new restaurant openings or adverse guest reactions to inadequate guest service levels due to staff shortages. Competition for qualified employees exerts upward pressure on wages paid to attract such personnel, resulting in higher labor costs, together with greater recruitment and training expense. A shortage in the labor pool could also cause our restaurants to be required to operate with reduced staff, which could negatively impact our ability to provide adequate service levels to our guests.

In addition, our success depends on our ability to attract, motivate and retain qualified employees, including restaurant managers and staff, to keep pace with our growth strategy. If we are unable to do so, our results of operations may be adversely affected.

We may not be able to obtain and maintain licenses and permits necessary to operate our restaurants and compliance with laws could adversely affect our operating results.

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

In addition to our having to comply with these licensing requirements, various federal and state labor laws govern our relationship with our employees and affect operating costs. These laws include minimum and tip wage requirements, overtime pay, health benefits, unemployment tax rates, workers' compensation rates, citizenship requirements, working conditions and sales taxes. A number of factors could adversely affect our operating results, including:

- additional government-imposed increases in minimum and/or tipped wages, overtime pay, paid leaves of absence and mandated health benefits;
- increased tax reporting and tax payment requirements for employees who receive gratuities;
- any failure of our employees to comply with laws and regulations governing citizenship or residency requirements resulting in disruption of our work force and adverse publicity against us;
- a reduction in the number of states that allow gratuities to be credited toward minimum wage requirements; and
- increased employee litigation including claims relating to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The federal Americans with Disabilities Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in public accommodations and employment. Although our restaurants are designed to be accessible to the disabled, we could be required to make modifications to our restaurants to provide service to, or make reasonable accommodations for disabled persons.

Complaints or litigation may hurt us.

Occasionally, our guests file complaints or lawsuits against us alleging that we are responsible for some illness or injury they suffered as a result of a visit to our restaurants, or that we have problems with food quality or operations. We are also subject to a variety of other claims arising in the ordinary course of our business, including personal injury claims, contract claims, claims from franchisees and claims alleging violations of federal and state laws regarding consumer, workplace and employment matters, wage and hour claims, discrimination and similar matters, or we could become subject to class action lawsuits related to these matters in the future. The restaurant industry has also been subject to a growing number of claims that the menus and actions of restaurant chains have led to the obesity of certain of their guests. In addition, we are subject to "dram shop" statutes. These statutes generally allow a person injured by an intoxicated person to recover damages from an establishment that wrongfully served alcoholic beverages to the intoxicated person. Some litigation against restaurant chains has resulted in significant judgments, including punitive damages, under dram shop statutes. Because a plaintiff may seek punitive damages, which may not be covered by insurance, this type of action could have an adverse impact on our financial condition and results of operations. Regardless of whether any claims against us are valid or whether we are liable, claims may be expensive to defend and may divert time and money away from our operations and hurt our performance. A judgment significantly in excess of our insurance coverage for any claims could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition or liquidity. Further, adverse publicity resulting from these allegations may have a material adverse effect on us and our restaurants.

We rely heavily on information technology, and any material failure, weakness or interruption could prevent us from effectively operating our business.

We rely heavily on information systems, including point-of-sale processing in our restaurants, payment of obligations, collection of cash, credit and debit card transactions and other processes and procedures. Our ability to efficiently and effectively manage our business depends significantly on the reliability and capacity of these systems. The failure of these systems to operate effectively, maintenance problems, upgrading or transitioning to new platforms could result in delays in guest service and reduce efficiency in our operations. Remediation of such problems could result in significant, unplanned capital investments.

We may incur costs resulting from breaches of security of confidential guest information related to our electronic processing of credit and debit card transactions.

We accept electronic payment cards for payment in our restaurants. During 2011, approximately 77% of our transactions were by credit or debit cards, and such card usage could increase. Other retailers have experienced actual or potential security breaches in which credit and debit card information may have been stolen. We may in the future become subject to claims for purportedly fraudulent transactions arising out of the actual or alleged theft of credit or debit card information, and we may also be subject to lawsuits or other proceedings relating to these types of incidents. Any such claim or proceeding could cause us to incur significant unplanned expenses, in excess of our insurance coverage, which could have an adverse impact on our financial condition and results of operations. Further, adverse publicity resulting from these allegations may have a material adverse effect on us and our restaurants.

Our current insurance may not provide adequate levels of coverage against claims.

We currently maintain insurance customary for businesses of our size and type. However, there are types of losses we may incur that cannot be insured against or that we believe are not economically reasonable to insure. Such damages could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations. In addition, we self-insure a significant portion of expected losses under our workers compensation, general liability, employment practices liability and property insurance programs. Unanticipated changes in the actuarial assumptions and management estimates underlying our reserves for these losses could result in materially different amounts of expense under these programs, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and liquidity.

Risks Related to Our Corporate Structure and our Stock Ownership

Provisions in our charter documents and Delaware law may delay or prevent our acquisition by a third party.

Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws contain several provisions that may make it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us without the approval of our Board of Directors. These provisions include, among other things, advance notice for raising business or making nominations at meetings and "blank check" preferred stock. Blank check preferred stock enables our Board of Directors, without approval of the stockholders, to designate and issue additional series of preferred stock with such dividend, liquidation, conversion, voting or other rights, including the right to issue convertible securities with no limitations on conversion, as our Board of Directors may determine. The issuance of blank check preferred stock may adversely affect the voting and other rights of the holders of our common stock as our Board of Directors may designate and issue preferred stock with terms that are senior to our common stock. These provisions may make it more difficult or expensive for a third party to acquire a majority of our outstanding common stock. These provisions also may delay, prevent or deter a merger, acquisition, tender offer, proxy contest or other transaction that might otherwise result in our stockholders receiving a premium over the market price for their common stock.

The Delaware General Corporation Law prohibits us from engaging in "business combinations" with "interested shareholders" (with some exceptions) unless such transaction is approved in a prescribed manner. The existence of this provision could have an anti-takeover effect with respect to transactions not approved in advance by the Board of Directors, including discouraging attempts that might result in a premium over the market price for our common stock.

ITEM 1B—UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2—PROPERTIES

Properties

Our Support Center is located in Louisville, Kentucky. We occupy this facility under leases with Paragon Centre Holdings, LLC, a limited liability company in which we have a minority ownership position. As of December 27, 2011, we leased 71,342 square feet. Our leases expire between March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2025. We have an option to renew the leases for an additional five years. Of

the 294 company restaurants in operation as of December 27, 2011, we owned 121 locations and leased 173 locations, as shown in the following table.

<u>State</u>	<u>Owned</u>	<u>Leased</u>	<u>Total</u>
Alabama	3	1	4
Arizona	6	6	12
Arkansas	—	2	2
California	1	—	1
Colorado	7	5	12
Connecticut	—	2	2
Delaware	1	1	2
Florida	3	4	7
Georgia	2	1	3
Idaho	1	3	4
Illinois	2	5	7
Indiana	7	5	12
Iowa	2	6	8
Kansas	2	—	2
Kentucky	4	5	9
Louisiana	1	6	7
Maine	—	3	3
Maryland	—	3	3
Massachusetts	1	7	8
Michigan	3	5	8
Minnesota	1	2	3
Mississippi	1	—	1
Missouri	2	8	10
Nebraska	—	2	2
Nevada	—	1	1
New Hampshire	2	—	2
New Jersey	1	2	3
New Mexico	1	1	2
New York	3	6	9
North Carolina	4	10	14
North Dakota	—	2	2
Ohio	11	5	16
Oklahoma	2	4	6
Pennsylvania	3	13	16
Rhode Island	—	2	2
South Dakota	1	1	2
Tennessee	—	10	10
Texas	34	15	49
Utah	—	7	7
Vermont	—	1	1
Virginia	4	6	10
Washington	—	1	1
West Virginia	1	—	1
Wisconsin	3	4	7
Wyoming	1	—	1
Total	<u>121</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>294</u>

Additional information concerning our properties and leasing arrangements is included in note 2(p) and note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements appearing in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

ITEM 3—LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Occasionally, we are a defendant in litigation arising in the ordinary course of our business, including "slip and fall" accidents, employment related claims and claims from guests or employees alleging illness, injury or food quality, health or operational concerns. None of these types of litigation, most of which are covered by insurance, has had a material effect on us and, as of the date of this report, we are not party to any litigation that we believe could have a material adverse effect on our business other than the litigation discussed below.

On September 30, 2011, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") filed a lawsuit titled *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission v. Texas Roadhouse, Inc., Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC, Texas Roadhouse Management Corp.* in the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, Civil Action Number 1:11-cv-11732. The complaint alleges that we engaged in a pattern and practice of age discrimination in hiring for certain restaurant positions in violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act. The complaint alleges that applicants over the age of 40 were denied employment in our restaurants in bartender, host, server and server assistant positions due to their age. The EEOC is seeking injunctive relief, remedial actions, payment of damages to the applicants and costs. We believe we have meritorious defenses to the claims made by the EEOC, and we intend to vigorously defend against them. We have filed a response to the complaint and are in the early phases of discovery. Based on the preliminary status of this matter, we cannot estimate the possible amount or range of loss, if any, associated with this matter.

On January 19, 2011, a civil case styled as a class action complaint titled *Jenna Crenshaw, Andrew Brickley, et al, and all others similarly situated v. Texas Roadhouse, Inc., Texas Roadhouse Holdings, LLC, Texas Roadhouse of Everett, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Management Corp., d/b/a Texas Roadhouse* ("Crenshaw") was filed. The complaint was subsequently amended to add additional plaintiffs. The complaint is pending in the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, Civil Action Number 1:11-cv-10549. The complaint alleges a failure to comply with Massachusetts labor laws, specifically that we improperly shared pooled tips with ineligible employees in all of our restaurants in Massachusetts. Currently, we operate nine restaurants in the state. We have filed an answer denying all material allegations and are in discovery. Additionally, we have agreed to participate in mediation.

We believe that we have meritorious defenses to the claims made in the Crenshaw case, and we intend to vigorously defend against them, including plaintiffs' efforts to certify a class action. Based on the preliminary status of this matter, specifically that no class has been certified, we cannot estimate the possible amount or range of loss, if any, associated with this matter. However, if the court imposes statutory penalties, including restitution of the difference between the tip credit wage and minimum wage, restitution of tips, treble damages and attorneys' fees, then the case could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operation or cash flows.

ITEM 4—MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not Applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5—MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol TXRH. The common stock has been quoted on the Nasdaq Global Select Market since October 5, 2004. The quarterly high and low closing prices of our common stock by quarter were as follows:

	High	Low
Year ended December 27, 2011		
First Quarter	\$ 18.45	\$ 15.97
Second Quarter	\$ 17.73	\$ 15.46
Third Quarter	\$ 18.28	\$ 13.07
Fourth Quarter	\$ 15.13	\$ 12.39
Year ended December 28, 2010		
First Quarter	\$ 14.24	\$ 10.64
Second Quarter	\$ 16.13	\$ 12.59
Third Quarter	\$ 14.60	\$ 12.05
Fourth Quarter	\$ 18.21	\$ 14.05

The number of holders of record of our common stock as of February 15, 2012 was 323.

On February 16, 2012, our Board of Directors authorized the payment of a cash dividend of \$0.09 per share of common stock. This payment will be distributed on March 30, 2012, to shareholders of record at the close of business on March 14, 2012. The declaration and payment of cash dividends on our common stock is at the discretion of our Board of Directors, and any decision to declare a dividend will be based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, earnings, financial condition, applicable covenants under our credit facility and other contractual restrictions, or other factors deemed relevant.

As of December 27, 2011, shares of common stock authorized for issuance under our equity compensation plan are summarized in the following table. The weighted-average option exercise price is for stock options only, as the restricted stock has no exercise price. See note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of the plan.

Plan Category	Shares to Be Issued Upon Exercise	Weighted- Average Option Exercise Price	Shares Available for Future Grants
Plan approved by stockholders	4,673,122	\$ 12.02	4,364,343
Plans not approved by stockholders	—	—	—
Total	4,673,122	\$ 12.02	4,364,343

Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities

There were no equity securities sold by the Company during the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Issuer Repurchases of Securities

On February 17, 2011, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program under which it authorized us to repurchase up to \$50.0 million of our common stock. On August 18, 2011, our

Board of Directors approved a \$50.0 million increase in our stock repurchase program. On February 16, 2012, our Board of Directors cancelled this stock repurchase program, which had no expiration date and \$40.9 million remaining as of December 27, 2011 and approved a stock repurchase program under which it authorized us to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of our common stock. Any repurchases will be made through open market transactions. The timing and the amount of any repurchases will be determined by management under parameters established by our Board of Directors, based on its evaluation of our stock price, market conditions and other corporate considerations.

Since commencing our repurchase program in 2008, we have repurchased a total of 10.5 million shares of common stock at a total cost of \$116.1 million through December 27, 2011 under authorizations from our Board of Directors. The following table includes information regarding purchases of our common stock made by us during the 13 weeks ended December 27, 2011.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased</u>	<u>Average Price Paid per Share</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs</u>	<u>Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</u>
September 28 to October 25	968,700	\$ 13.09	968,700	\$ 40,932,770.21
October 26 to November 22	—	—	—	\$ 40,932,770.21
November 23 to December 27	—	—	—	\$ 40,932,770.21
Total	<u>968,700</u>		<u>968,700</u>	

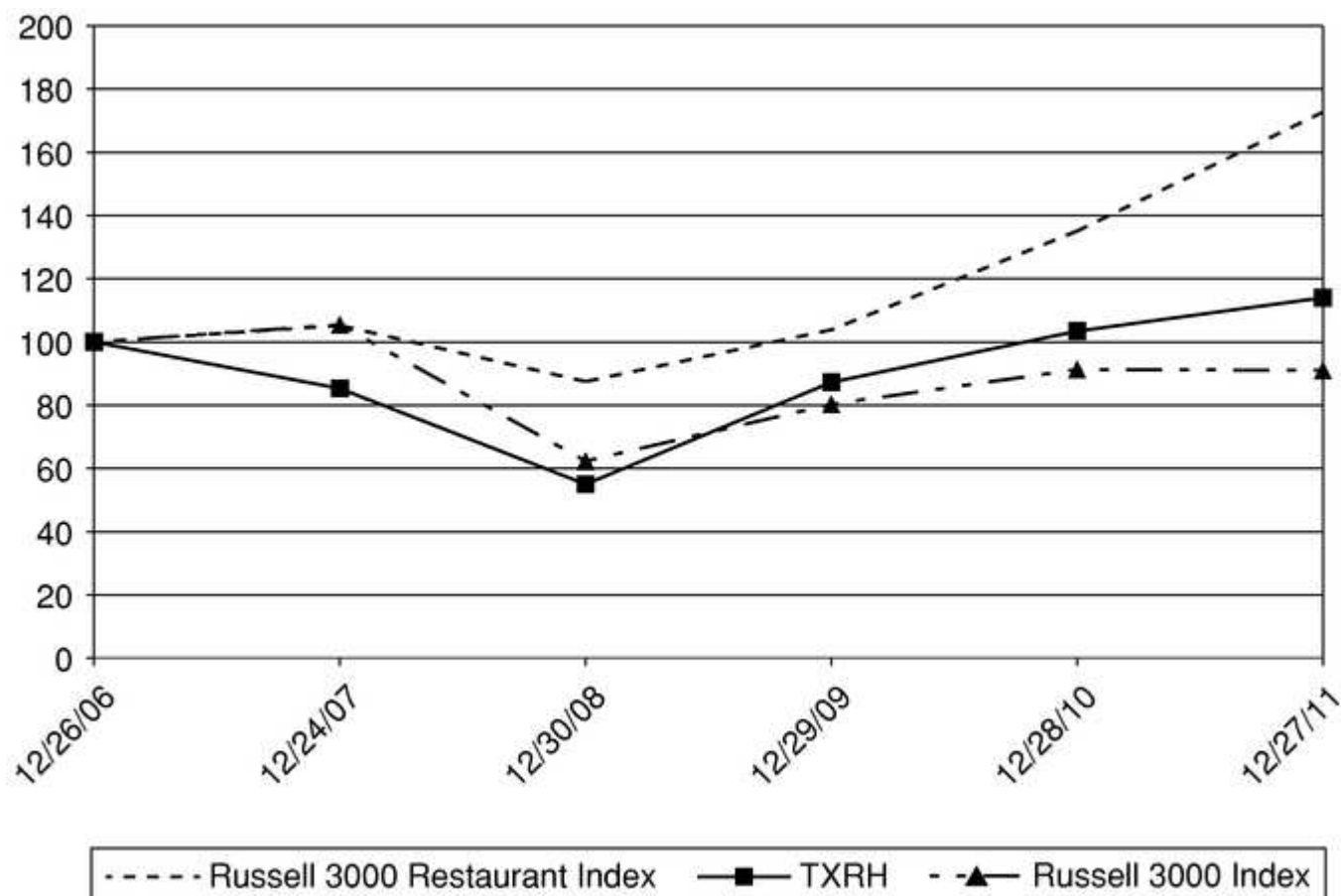
Stock Performance Graph

The following graph sets forth cumulative total return experienced by holders of the Company's common stock compared to the cumulative total return of the Russell 3000 Restaurant Index and the Russell 3000 Index for the period ended December 27, 2011, the last trading day of our fiscal year. The graph assumes the values of the investment in our common stock and each index was \$100 on December 26, 2006 and the reinvestment of all dividends paid during the period of the securities comprising the indices.

Note: The stock price performance shown on the graph below does not indicate future performance.

Comparison of Cumulative Total Return Since December 26, 2006

Among Texas Roadhouse, Inc., the Russell 3000 Index and the Russell 3000 Restaurant Index



	12/26/06	12/24/07	12/30/08	12/29/09	12/28/10	12/27/11
Texas Roadhouse, Inc.	\$ 100.00	\$ 85.31	\$ 55.01	\$ 87.26	\$ 103.44	\$ 114.02
Russell 3000	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.50	\$ 62.33	\$ 80.34	\$ 91.31	\$ 91.04
Russell 3000 Restaurant	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.26	\$ 87.50	\$ 103.87	\$ 135.10	\$ 172.73

ITEM 6—SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

We derived the selected consolidated financial data as of and for the years 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 from our audited consolidated financial statements.

The Company utilizes a 52 or 53 week accounting period that ends on the last Tuesday in December. The Company utilizes a 13 or 14 week accounting period for quarterly reporting purposes. Fiscal year 2008 was 53 weeks in length while fiscal years 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2007 were 52 weeks in length. Our historical results are not necessarily indicative of our results for any future period.

	Fiscal Year				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	(in thousands, except per share data)				
Consolidated Statements of Income:					
Revenue:					
Restaurant sales	\$ 1,099,475	\$ 995,988	\$ 934,100	\$ 871,556	\$ 724,372
Franchise royalties and fees	9,751	9,005	8,231	8,905	10,717
Total revenue	1,109,226	1,004,993	942,331	880,461	735,089
Income from operations	95,239	90,617	75,861	62,027	63,213
Income before taxes	93,192	88,372	72,809	58,398	61,212
Provision for income taxes	26,765	27,683	23,491	19,389	21,176
Net income including noncontrolling interests	\$ 66,427	\$ 60,689	\$ 49,318	\$ 39,009	\$ 40,036
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	2,463	2,400	1,839	841	711
Net income attributable to Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries	\$ 63,964	\$ 58,289	\$ 47,479	\$ 38,168	\$ 39,325
Net income per common share:					
Basic	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.53
Diluted	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.67	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.51
Weighted average shares outstanding(1):					
Basic	70,829	71,432	69,967	72,672	74,611
Diluted	72,278	72,929	71,298	74,079	76,832

	Fiscal Year				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	(\$ in thousands)				
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:					
Cash	\$ 73,731	\$ 82,215	\$ 46,858	\$ 5,258	\$ 11,564
Total assets	740,670	702,801	662,073	622,663	546,029
Long-term debt and obligations under capital leases, net of current maturities	61,601	51,906	101,179	132,482	66,482
Total liabilities	244,848	203,419	239,123	259,866	176,264
Noncontrolling interests	3,918	2,766	2,578	2,807	2,384
Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries stockholders' equity(2)	491,904	496,616	420,372	359,990	367,381
Selected Operating Data (unaudited):					
Restaurants:					
Company—Texas Roadhouse	291	271	260	245	204
Company—Aspen Creek	3	3	1	—	—
Franchise	72	71	70	69	81
Total	366	345	331	314	285
Company restaurant information:					
Store weeks	14,573	13,803	13,255	11,861	9,499
Comparable restaurant sales growth(3)	4.7%	2.4%	(2.8)%	(2.3)%	1.4%
Texas Roadhouse restaurants only:					
Comparable restaurant sales growth(3)	4.8%	2.4%	(2.8)%	(2.3)%	1.4%
Average unit volumes (4)	\$ 3,917	\$ 3,730	\$ 3,660	\$ 3,823	\$ 3,974
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 137,507	\$ 119,908	\$ 115,129	\$ 101,214	\$ 76,567
Net cash used in investing activities	\$ (81,570)	\$ (44,816)	\$ (43,134)	\$ (120,216)	\$ (134,532)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	\$ (64,421)	\$ (39,735)	\$ (30,395)	\$ 12,696	\$ 35,745

- (1) See note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (2) See note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (3) Comparable restaurant sales growth reflects the change in sales over the same period of the prior years for the comparable restaurant base. We define the comparable restaurant base to include those restaurants open for a full 18 months before the beginning of the later fiscal period, excluding sales from restaurants closed during the period.
- (4) Average unit volume represents the average annual restaurant sales from Texas Roadhouse company restaurants open for a full six months before the beginning of the period measured, excluding sales from restaurants closed during the period. Although 2008 contained 53 weeks, for comparative purposes, 2008 average unit volumes were adjusted to a 52-week basis. Additionally, average unit volume of company-owned restaurants for 2008 and 2007 in the table above were adjusted to reflect the restaurant sales of any acquired franchise restaurants.

ITEM 7—MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The discussion and analysis below for the Company should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes to such financial statements (pages F-1 to F-19), "Forward-looking Statements" (page 3) and Risk Factors set forth in Item 1A.

Our Company

Texas Roadhouse is a growing, moderately priced, full-service restaurant chain. Our founder, chairman and CEO, W. Kent Taylor, started the business in 1993 with the opening of the first Texas Roadhouse in Clarksville, Indiana. Since then, we have grown to 365 restaurants in 47 states. In addition, we opened our first international franchise-owned Texas Roadhouse in Dubai, UAE in 2011. Our mission statement is "Legendary Food, Legendary Service®." Our operating strategy is designed to position each of our restaurants as the local hometown destination for a broad segment of consumers seeking high-quality, affordable meals served with friendly, attentive service. As of December 27, 2011, our 366 restaurants included:

- 294 "company restaurants," of which 282 were wholly-owned and 12 were majority-owned. The results of operations of company restaurants are included in our consolidated operating results. The portion of income attributable to minority interests in company restaurants that are not wholly-owned is reflected in the line item entitled "Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests" in our consolidated statements of income.
- 72 "franchise restaurants," of which 69 were franchise restaurants and 3 were license restaurants. We have a 5.0% to 10.0% ownership interest in 22 franchise restaurants. The income derived from our minority interests in these franchise restaurants is reported in the line item entitled "Equity income from investments in unconsolidated affiliates" in our consolidated statements of income. Additionally, we provide various management services to these franchise restaurants, as well as six additional franchise restaurants in which we have no ownership interest.

We have contractual arrangements which grant us the right to acquire at pre-determined valuation formulas (i) the remaining equity interests in ten of the 12 majority-owned company restaurants and (ii) 65 of the franchise restaurants.

Presentation of Financial and Operating Data

We operate on a fiscal year that ends on the last Tuesday in December. Fiscal years 2011, 2010 and 2009 were 52 weeks in length, while the quarters for those years were 13 weeks in length.

Long-term Strategies to Grow Earnings Per Share

Our long-term strategies with respect to increasing net income and earnings per share include the following:

Expanding Our Restaurant Base. We will continue to evaluate opportunities to develop Texas Roadhouse restaurants in existing markets and new domestic or international markets. Domestically, we will remain focused primarily on mid-sized markets where we believe a significant demand for our restaurants exists because of population size, income levels and the presence of shopping and entertainment centers and a significant employment base. Our ability to expand our restaurant base is influenced by many factors beyond our control and therefore we may not be able to achieve our anticipated growth. We moderated our restaurant development plans for 2009 and 2010 due, in part, to increasing restaurant development costs, particularly during 2006 to 2009. In 2010, our new store returns increased due, in part, to our ability to lower restaurant development costs, along with improved sales in 2010. As a result, we increased development to 20 restaurants in 2011 and plan to

open 25 restaurants in 2012. Our average capital investment for Texas Roadhouse restaurants opened during 2011, including pre-opening expenses, was \$3.76 million, which is relatively unchanged from our average capital investment in 2010 of \$3.74 million. We anticipate that our 2012 development costs will be consistent with our 2011 costs. We continue to focus on driving sales and managing restaurant development costs in order to further increase our restaurant development in the future.

We may, at our discretion, add franchise restaurants, domestically and/or internationally, primarily with franchisees who have demonstrated prior success with the Texas Roadhouse or other restaurant concepts and in markets in which the franchisee demonstrates superior knowledge of the demographics and restaurant operating conditions. In conjunction with this strategy, we signed our first international franchise agreement on in 2010 for the development of Texas Roadhouse restaurants in eight countries in the Middle East over the next ten years, the first of which opened in August 2011. Additionally, in 2010, we entered into a joint venture agreement with a casual dining restaurant operator in China for minority ownership in three non-Texas Roadhouse restaurants, one of which opened in 2011. We continue to explore opportunities in other countries for international expansion. We may also look to acquire franchise restaurants under terms favorable to the Company and our stockholders. Additionally, from time to time, we will evaluate potential mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures or other strategic initiatives to acquire or develop additional concepts. Of the 294 restaurants we owned and operated at the end of 2011, 291 operated as Texas Roadhouse restaurants, while three operated under the name of Aspen Creek. All of our planned restaurant growth in 2012 will be Texas Roadhouse restaurants.

Maintaining and/or Improving Restaurant Level Profitability. We plan to maintain, or possibly increase, restaurant level profitability through a combination of increased comparable restaurant sales and operating cost management. In 2011, our average unit volumes and comparable restaurant sales increased 5.0% and 4.8%, respectively for Texas Roadhouse restaurants. The growth in these measures was primarily due to higher guest traffic counts and increases in menu pricing taken throughout 2011. We believe the increased guest traffic counts is due to our continued focus on encouraging repeat visits by our guests by not sacrificing any operational standards relating to our quality of food and service, along with an improvement in the overall economy. We also continue to drive various localized marketing programs in order to attract new guests and increase the frequency of visits of our existing guests. In an effort to partially offset inflationary pressures, we have increased menu prices approximately 2.3% and 2.2% in 2011 and 2012, respectively. In general, we continue to maintain our conservative approach on pricing as we remain focused on the long-term success of Texas Roadhouse. This may create a challenge in terms of maintaining and/or increasing restaurant margins, as a percentage of sales, in any given year, depending on the level of inflation we experience. In addition to restaurant margin, as a percentage of sales, we also focus on restaurant margin dollar growth per store week as a measure of restaurant level profitability.

While our average unit volumes and comparable restaurant sales increased in 2010, these measures declined from 2007 through 2009 primarily as a result of lower guest traffic counts and lower increases in average guest check. We believe the lower guest traffic counts across these periods were primarily attributable to a general softening of the overall consumer environment, consistent with the casual dining industry, as a whole, experiencing lower guest traffic counts. During this three-year span, consumer casual dining restaurant demand was negatively impacted by increasing unemployment rates and higher menu prices resulting from inflationary pressures such as certain state minimum and tipped wage increases, along with higher gasoline prices. In addition, we experienced guests shifting their selections to lower priced menu items and/or purchasing fewer alcoholic beverages over the last few years. We believe all of these pressures negatively impacted guest traffic counts and average guest check, for us, as well as the industry.

Leveraging Our Scalable Infrastructure. To support our growth, we continue to make investments in our infrastructure. Over the past several years, we have made significant investments in our infrastructure including information systems, real estate, human resources, legal, marketing and

operations. In 2011, general and administrative costs increased at a slower growth rate than our revenue. Whether we are able to continue leveraging our infrastructure will depend, in part, on our new restaurant and comparable restaurant sales growth rates going forward.

Returning Capital to Shareholders. We continue to look at opportunities to return capital to our shareholders, including through the repurchases of common stock and the payment of dividends. In 2011, we paid \$59.1 million to repurchase 3,972,100 shares of our common stock and implemented a dividend program through which we declared quarterly dividends of \$0.08 per share of common stock. Since 2008, we have paid \$116.1 million to repurchase 10,484,907 shares of our common stock. In 2011, we paid dividends of \$17.0 million. In 2012, we increased our first quarter dividend to \$0.09 per share of common stock and our long-term strategy includes increasing that amount over time. The declaration and payment of cash dividends on our common stock is at the discretion of our Board of Directors, and any decision to declare a dividend will be based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, earnings, financial condition, applicable covenants under our credit facility and other contractual restrictions, or other factors deemed relevant.

Key Operating Personnel

Key personnel who have a significant impact on the performance of our restaurants include managing and market partners. Each company restaurant has one managing partner who serves as the general manager. Market partners can provide supervisory services for up to 10 to 13 managing partners and their respective management teams. Market partners also assist with our site selection process and recruitment of new management teams. The managing partner of each company restaurant and their corresponding market partners are required, as a condition of employment, to sign a multi-year employment agreement. The annual compensation of our managing and market partners includes a base salary plus a percentage of the pre-tax net income of the restaurant(s) they operate or supervise. Managing and market partners are eligible to participate in our equity incentive plan and, as a general rule, are required to make deposits of \$25,000 and \$50,000, respectively. Generally, the deposits are refunded after five years of service.

Key Measures We Use To Evaluate Our Company

Key measures we use to evaluate and assess our business include the following:

Number of Restaurant Openings. Number of restaurant openings reflects the number of restaurants opened during a particular fiscal period. For company restaurant openings we incur pre-opening costs, which are defined below, before the restaurant opens. Typically new restaurants open with an initial start-up period of higher than normalized sales volumes, which decrease to a steady level approximately three to six months after opening. However, although sales volumes are generally higher, so are initial costs, resulting in restaurant operating margins that are generally lower during the start-up period of operation and increase to a steady level approximately three to six months after opening.

Comparable Restaurant Sales Growth. Comparable restaurant sales growth reflects the change in year-over-year sales for the company restaurants in the comparable restaurant base. We define the comparable restaurant base to include those restaurants open for a full 18 months before the beginning of the later fiscal period excluding restaurants closed during the period. Comparable restaurant sales growth can be impacted by changes in guest traffic counts or by changes in the per person average check amount. Menu price changes and the mix of menu items sold can affect the per person average check amount.

Average Unit Volume. Average unit volume represents the average annual restaurant sales for company-owned Texas Roadhouse restaurants open for a full six months before the beginning of the period measured. Average unit volume excludes sales on restaurants closed during the period. Growth

in average unit volumes in excess of comparable restaurant sales growth is generally an indication that newer restaurants are operating with sales levels in excess of the company average. Conversely, growth in average unit volumes less than growth in comparable restaurant sales growth is generally an indication that newer restaurants are operating with sales levels lower than the company average.

Store Weeks. Store weeks represent the number of weeks that our company restaurants were open during the reporting period.

Restaurant Margins. Restaurant margins represent restaurant sales less restaurant operating costs. Restaurant margins, as a percentage of restaurant sales, may fluctuate based on inflationary pressures, commodity costs and wage rates.

Other Key Definitions

Restaurant Sales. Restaurant sales include gross food and beverage sales, net of promotions and discounts. Sales taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities are accounted for on a net basis and therefore are excluded from restaurant sales in the consolidated statements of income.

Franchise Royalties and Fees. Domestic franchisees typically pay a \$40,000 initial franchise fee for each new restaurant and a franchise renewal fee equal to the greater of 30% of the then-current initial franchise fee or \$10,000 to \$15,000. Franchise royalties consist of royalties in an amount up to 4.0% of gross sales, as defined in our franchise agreement, paid to us by our domestic franchisees.

Restaurant Cost of Sales. Restaurant cost of sales consists of food and beverage costs.

Restaurant Labor Expenses. Restaurant labor expenses include all direct and indirect labor costs incurred in operations except for profit sharing incentive compensation expenses earned by our restaurant managers. These profit sharing expenses are reflected in restaurant other operating expenses. Restaurant labor expenses also include share-based compensation expense related to restaurant-level employees.

Restaurant Rent Expense. Restaurant rent expense includes all rent associated with the leasing of operating real estate and includes base, percentage and straight-line rent expense.

Restaurant Other Operating Expenses. Restaurant other operating expenses consist of all other restaurant-level operating costs, the major components of which are utilities, supplies, advertising, repairs and maintenance, property taxes, credit card fees and general liability insurance. Profit sharing allocations to managing partners and market partners are also included in restaurant other operating expenses.

Pre-opening Expenses. Pre-opening expenses, which are charged to operations as incurred, consist of expenses incurred before the opening of a new restaurant and are comprised principally of opening team and training salaries, travel expenses, rent, and food, beverage and other initial supplies and expenses.

Depreciation and Amortization Expenses. Depreciation and amortization expenses ("D&A") includes the depreciation of fixed assets and amortization of intangibles with definite lives.

Impairment and closure costs. Impairment and closure costs include any impairment of long-lived assets, including goodwill, associated with restaurants where the carrying amount of the asset is not recoverable and exceeds the fair value of the asset and expenses associated with the closure of a restaurant. Closure costs also include any gains or losses associated with the sale of a closed restaurant and/or assets held for sale.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses ("G&A") are comprised of expenses associated with corporate and administrative functions that support development and restaurant operations and provide an infrastructure to support future growth. Supervision and accounting fees received from certain franchise restaurants and license restaurants are offset against G&A. G&A also includes share-based compensation expense related to executive officers, support center employees and area managers, including market partners.

Interest Expense, Net. Interest expense includes the cost of our debt obligations including the amortization of loan fees, reduced by interest income and capitalized interest. Interest income includes earnings on cash and cash equivalents.

Equity Income from Unconsolidated Affiliates. As of December 27, 2011, we owned 5.0% to 10.0% equity interest in 22 franchise restaurants. As of December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, we owned 5.0% to 10.0% equity interest in 21 franchise restaurants. Equity income from unconsolidated affiliates represents our percentage share of net income earned by these unconsolidated affiliates.

Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interests. Minority interest represents the portion of income attributable to the other owners of the majority-owned or controlled restaurants. Our consolidated subsidiaries at December 27, 2011 included 12 majority-owned restaurants, all of which were open. Our consolidated subsidiaries at December 28, 2010 included 11 majority-owned restaurants, all of which were open. Our consolidated subsidiaries at December 29, 2009 included ten majority-owned restaurants, all of which were open.

Managing Partners and Market Partners. Managing partners are single unit operators who have primary responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the entire restaurant and are responsible for maintaining the standards of quality and performance we establish. Market partners, generally, have supervisory responsibilities for up to 10 to 13 restaurants. In addition to supervising the operations of

our restaurants, they are also responsible for the hiring and development of each restaurant's management team and assist in the new restaurant site selection process.

	Results of Operations					
	Fiscal Year					
	2011		2010		2009	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands)					
Consolidated Statements of Income:						
Revenue:						
Restaurant sales	1,099,475	99.1	995,988	99.1	934,100	99.1
Franchise royalties and fees	9,751	0.9	9,005	0.9	8,231	0.9
Total revenue	1,109,226	100.0	1,004,993	100.0	942,331	100.0
Costs and expenses:						
(As a percentage of restaurant sales)						
Restaurant operating costs:						
Cost of sales	367,385	33.4	324,267	32.6	312,800	33.5
Labor	326,233	29.7	293,022	29.4	276,626	29.6
Rent	23,150	2.1	21,361	2.1	20,018	2.1
Other operating	184,073	16.7	172,893	17.4	158,961	17.0
(As a percentage of total revenue)						
Pre-opening	11,534	1.0	7,051	0.7	5,813	0.6
Depreciation and amortization	42,709	3.9	41,283	4.1	41,822	4.4
Impairment and closures	1,201	0.1	2,005	0.2	3,000	0.3
General and administrative	57,702	5.2	52,494	5.2	47,430	5.0
Total costs and expenses	1,013,987	91.4	914,376	91.0	866,470	91.9
Income from operations	95,239	8.6	90,617	9.0	75,861	8.1
Interest expense, net	2,413	0.2	2,673	0.3	3,273	0.3
Equity income from investments in unconsolidated affiliates						
	(366)	0.0	(428)	0.0	(221)	0.0
Income before taxes	93,192	8.4	88,372	8.8	72,809	7.7
Provision for income taxes	26,765	2.4	27,683	2.8	23,491	2.5
Net income including noncontrolling interests	66,427	6.0	60,689	6.0	49,318	5.2
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	2,463	0.2	2,400	0.2	1,839	0.2
Net income attributable to Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries						
	63,964	5.8	58,289	5.8	47,479	5.0

Restaurant Unit Activity

	Company	Franchise	Total
Balance at December 30, 2008	245	69	314
Openings—Texas Roadhouse	16	3	19
Openings—Aspen Creek	1	—	1
Acquisitions (Dispositions)	1	(1)	—
Closures	(2)	(1)	(3)
Balance at December 29, 2009	261	70	331
Openings—Texas Roadhouse	12	1	13
Openings—Aspen Creek	2	—	2
Closures	(1)	—	(1)
Balance at December 28, 2010	274	71	345
Openings—Texas Roadhouse	20	1	21
Openings—Aspen Creek	—	—	—
Closures	—	—	—
Balance at December 27, 2011	294	72	366

Restaurant Sales

Restaurant sales increased by 10.4% in 2011 as compared to 2010. This increase was attributable to the opening of new restaurants and an increase in average unit volumes, primarily comparable restaurant sales. Restaurant sales increased by 6.6% in 2010 compared to 2009. This increase was attributable to the opening of new restaurants and the acquisitions of franchise restaurants in fiscal 2008, partially offset by a decrease in comparable restaurant sales and average unit volumes.

The following table summarizes certain key drivers and/or attributes of restaurant sales at company restaurants for the periods.

	2011	2010	2009
Company Restaurants			
Increase in store weeks	5.6%	4.1%	11.8%
Increase/(decrease) in average unit volumes	5.0	1.9	(4.3)
Other(1)	(0.2)	0.6	(0.3)
Total increase in restaurant sales	10.4%	6.6%	7.2%
Store weeks	14,573	13,803	13,255
Comparable restaurant sales growth/(decline)	4.7%	2.4%	(2.8)%
Texas Roadhouse restaurants only:			
Comparable restaurant sales growth/(decline)	4.8%	2.4%	(2.8)%
Average unit volume (in thousands)	\$ 3,917	\$ 3,730	\$ 3,660

- (1) Includes the impact of the year-over-year change in sales volume of all Aspen Creek restaurants and Texas Roadhouse restaurants open less than six months before the beginning of the period measured, and, if applicable, the impact of restaurants closed during the period.

The increase in store weeks for 2011, 2010 and 2009 was primarily attributable to the opening of new restaurants. Company restaurant count activity is shown in the restaurant unit activity table above.

The increase in average unit volumes for 2011 compared to 2010 and 2010 compared to 2009 was primarily driven by a combination of positive comparable restaurant sales and higher year-over-year sales at newer restaurants. For 2011, comparable restaurant sales increased 4.7% which was generated by an increase in guest traffic counts and an increase in our per person average check. For 2010, comparable restaurant sales increased 2.4% which was generated by an increase in guest traffic counts, partially offset by a slight decline in our per person average check.

While we did not take any pricing increases in 2010 due to the favorable commodities environment, we did take menu price increases totaling 2.3% during 2011 as a result of expected inflationary pressures, primarily commodities. The menu price increases we have taken throughout 2011 drove the increase in our per person average check.

In 2012, we plan to open approximately 25 additional company restaurants. We have either begun construction or have sites under contract for purchase or lease for 24 of the 25 restaurants. We may evaluate additional opportunities for international development and possibly acquiring franchise restaurants in 2012.

Franchise Royalties and Fees

Franchise royalties and fees increased by \$0.7 million or by 8.3% in 2011 from 2010 and increased by \$0.8 million or by 9.4% in 2010 from 2009. These increases were primarily attributable to an increase in average unit volumes, increasing royalty rates in conjunction with the renewal of certain franchise agreements, and the opening of new franchise restaurants. Franchise comparable restaurant sales increased by 4.3% in 2011 and 2.5% in 2010. Franchise restaurant count activity is shown in the restaurant unit activity table above.

Restaurant Cost of Sales

Restaurant cost of sales, as a percentage of restaurant sales, increased to 33.4% in 2011 from 32.6% in 2010. This increase was primarily attributable to commodity inflation of approximately 3.5% for 2011. Inflation has been driven by higher food costs on items such as potatoes, pork, beef, cheese and wheat ingredients. For 2012, we have fixed price contracts, which include some floor and ceiling pricing, for 65% to 70% of our overall food costs with the remainder subject to fluctuating market prices. We expect commodity cost inflation of approximately 8.0% in 2012.

Restaurant cost of sales, as a percentage of restaurant sales, decreased to 32.6% in 2010 from 33.5% in 2009. This decrease was primarily attributable to the benefit of lower beef costs and lower food costs on items such as oil-based and wheat ingredients.

Restaurant Labor Expenses

Restaurant labor expenses, as a percentage of restaurant sales, increased to 29.7% in 2011 from 29.4% in 2010. Higher payroll taxes and the impact of labor inefficiencies associated with newer restaurants were partially offset by the benefit from an increase in average unit volumes and lower workers' compensation costs.

In 2011, higher payroll tax expense was primarily due to the benefit we obtained in 2010 from exemptions under the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act, which was recorded as a reduction in payroll tax expense. For 2011, the exemptions under the HIRE Act were replaced by a tax credit which results in a reduction in income tax expense rather than payroll tax expense. For 2011, the net impact of this change year-over-year was an increase in payroll expense of \$1.8 million. In addition, we have experienced higher state unemployment taxes throughout 2011.

Workers' compensation costs were \$0.5 million lower in 2011 compared to 2010 due to changes in our claims development history. Increased development in 2011 compared to the prior year has negatively impacted labor expense, as a percentage of sales. Typically new restaurants open with an initial start-up period of higher than normalized sales volumes and higher than normalized labor costs. These tend to normalize approximately three to six months after opening.

Restaurant labor expenses, as a percentage of restaurant sales, decreased to 29.4% in 2010 from 29.6% in 2009. This decrease was primarily attributable to an increase in average unit volumes and lower payroll tax expense, partially offset by higher average wage rates. Additionally, lower workers' compensation claims experience resulted in lower year-over-year workers' compensation expense for 2010.

In 2012, we anticipate our labor costs will be pressured by inflation due to state-mandated increases in minimum and tip wage rates. At this time, we have approximately 50 restaurants in 6 states which have announced increases in minimum and tip wage rates effective January 1, 2012. We expect these increases in costs will be offset by menu price actions taken, along with traffic growth, in the first quarter of 2012.

Restaurant Rent Expense

Restaurant rent expense, as a percentage of restaurant sales, remained unchanged at 2.1% in 2011 compared to 2010 and 2009. In 2011 and 2010, the benefit from an increase in average unit volumes offset the impact of leasing more land and buildings than in the past.

Restaurant Other Operating Expenses

Restaurant other operating expenses, as a percentage of restaurant sales, decreased to 16.7% in 2011 from 17.4% in 2010. This decrease was attributable to an increase in average unit volumes and lower general liability insurance, utility and property tax costs. General liability insurance costs were lower in 2011 as we had additional insurance expense in 2010 of \$1.5 million due to changes in our claims development history related to our 2010 quarterly actuarial reports. Utility costs were lower primarily due to lower electricity and natural gas prices.

Restaurant other operating expenses, as a percentage of restaurant sales, increased to 17.4% in 2010 from 17.0% in 2009. This increase was primarily attributable to higher costs for managing partner and market partner bonuses, as a percentage of sales, and higher general liability insurance costs, partially offset by an increase in average unit volumes. Managing partner and market partner bonuses were higher in 2010 as a result of improved restaurant sales and higher margins.

Restaurant Pre-opening Expenses

Pre-opening expenses in 2011 increased to \$11.5 million from \$7.1 million in 2010. This increase was primarily attributable to more restaurant openings in 2011 compared to 2010, along with more planned restaurant openings in 2012. We opened 20 company restaurants in 2011 compared to 15 company restaurants in 2010. Additionally, we plan to open 25 company restaurants in 2012. Pre-opening costs will fluctuate from period to period based on the number and timing of restaurant openings and the number and timing of restaurant managers hired. Based on our increased restaurant development plans, we expect pre-opening expense to be higher in 2012.

Pre-opening expenses in 2010 increased to \$7.1 million from \$5.8 million in 2009. This increase was primarily attributable to more restaurants in the development pipeline during 2010 as compared to 2009, driven by our plan to open 20 company restaurants in 2011 as compared to 14 company restaurants in 2010.

Depreciation and Amortization Expenses ("D&A")

D&A, as a percentage of revenue, decreased to 3.9% in 2011 from 4.1% in 2010 and decreased to 4.1% in 2010 from 4.4% in 2009. These decreases were primarily attributable to an increase in average unit volumes. In addition, lower depreciation expense, as a percentage of revenue, on short-lived assets in older restaurants was partially offset by higher depreciation expense, as a percentage of revenue, on the same type of assets in newer restaurants.

Impairment and Closure Expenses

Impairment and closure expenses decreased to \$1.2 million in 2011 from \$2.0 million in 2010 which was a decrease from \$3.0 million in 2009. In 2011, we recorded \$0.8 million of impairment expense associated with the impairment of goodwill related to one restaurant and \$0.3 million of impairment expense associated with the write down of assets, primarily land and building, related to a restaurant which was closed in 2010. In 2010, we recorded \$1.7 million of impairment expense associated with the impairment of goodwill related to four restaurants and \$0.2 million related to the write-down of equipment and ongoing closure costs associated with one restaurant, which was closed in 2010. In 2009, impairment and closure expenses included \$3.2 million associated with the impairment of goodwill, reacquired franchise rights and other long-lived assets (primarily building and equipment). Additionally, in 2009, we recorded a gain of \$0.6 million related to the sale of one restaurant which was relocated, a charge of \$0.5 million in conjunction with the closure of one restaurant, and a credit of \$0.1 million related to the settlement of a lease reserve associated with one restaurant which was closed in 2008. For all years presented, we also incurred costs primarily attributable to various restaurant closures in prior fiscal years.

The goodwill impairment charges in 2011, 2010 and 2009 resulted from our annual testing, which relies, in part, on the historical and projected future cash flows of individual restaurants. We assign goodwill at the individual restaurant level. As such, we anticipate that we will incur future impairment charges as the historical and/or projected future financial performance of these restaurants change. The amount and timing of any potential future charges, however, is difficult to predict.

See note 14 in the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion regarding closures and impairments recorded in 2011, 2010 and 2009, including the impairments of goodwill and other long-lived assets.

General and Administrative Expenses ("G&A")

G&A, as a percentage of total revenue, remained unchanged at 5.2% in 2011 compared to 2010. For 2011, an increase in average unit volumes and lower performance-based bonus expense as a result of lower plan profitability compared to the prior year were offset by higher costs associated with share-based compensation costs, legal fees, marketing and travel costs. In 2011, share-based compensation costs were \$1.0 million higher as a result of a grant of restricted stock units on January 8, 2011 in conjunction with the extension of certain executive employment contracts at the beginning of 2010. In addition, in the first quarter of 2011, we incurred a one-time charge of \$0.5 million related to restricted stock units granted in 2010.

We expect share-based compensation costs to be approximately \$1.8 million higher in 2012 compared to 2011 primarily driven by a higher stock price associated with a grant of restricted stock units on January 7, 2012 in conjunction with the execution of certain executive employment contracts at the beginning of 2012. Overall, in 2012, we expect total G&A costs to increase at a slower growth rate than our revenue.

G&A, as a percentage of total revenue, increased to 5.2% in 2010 from 5.0% in 2009. The increase is primarily attributable to higher costs associated with our annual managing partner

conference and higher salary expense, partially offset by an increase in average unit volumes. Costs associated with our annual conference were \$3.4 million in 2010 compared to \$2.0 million in 2009. The majority of these costs were incurred during the second fiscal quarter in each year.

Interest Expense, Net

Net interest expense decreased to \$2.4 million in 2011 from \$2.7 million in 2010 which was a decrease from \$3.3 million in 2009. The decrease in 2011 was primarily attributable to lower interest rates partially offset by higher outstanding borrowings under our credit facility. The decrease in 2010 was primarily attributable to the decrease in outstanding borrowings under our credit facility and lower interest rates.

Income Taxes

We account for income taxes in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 740, *Income Taxes ("ASC 740")*. Our effective tax rate decreased to 29.5% in 2011 from 32.2% in 2010. The decrease in 2011 was primarily attributable to higher federal tax credits, including HIRE Act tax credits, lower non-deductible officer's compensation, and the benefit of certain incentive stock options exercised during the quarter. The HIRE Act tax credit is a 2011 federal tax credit enacted to encourage the retention of new hires for 52 weeks. The credit is only available for eligible new employees hired between February 4, 2010 and December 31, 2010 that remain employed for 52 consecutive weeks. Prior to 2011, as part of the HIRE Act, we received payroll tax exemptions, which lowered our restaurant labor expenses in 2010. For 2012, we expect the tax rate to increase to 32.5% to 33.0% primarily due to lower federal tax credits, based on the expiration of the HIRE Act and worker opportunity tax credits, and an expected increase in non-deductible officer's compensation.

Our effective tax rate decreased to 32.2% in 2010 from 33.1% in 2009. The decrease in 2010 was primarily attributable to higher work opportunity tax credits, lower non-deductible stock compensation expense and lower non-deductible officers' compensation. The decrease was partially offset by the impact of higher profitability, which led to a lower benefit, on a percentage basis, of federal tax credits. The higher work opportunity tax credits resulted from the expansion of the federal program for disconnected youth for eligible employees hired through 2010.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The following table presents a summary of our net cash provided by (used in) operating, investing and financing activities:

	Fiscal Year		
	2011	2010 (in thousands)	2009
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 137,507	\$ 119,908	\$ 115,129
Net cash used in investing activities	(81,570)	(44,816)	(43,134)
Net cash used in financing activities	(64,421)	(39,735)	(30,395)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	\$ (8,484)	\$ 35,357	\$ 41,600

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$137.5 million in 2011 compared to \$119.9 million in 2010. This increase was primarily due to changes in working capital, along with increases in share-based compensation and net income. Net income was \$5.7 million higher as a result of opening new restaurants and average unit volume growth, partially offset by lower margins. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$119.9 million in 2010 compared to \$115.1 million in 2009. This increase was

primarily due to higher net income, partially offset by other changes in working capital. Net income was \$11.4 million higher as a result of opening new restaurants, average unit volume growth and higher margins.

Our operations have not required significant working capital and, like many restaurant companies, we have been able to operate with negative working capital. Sales are primarily for cash, and restaurant operations do not require significant inventories or receivables. In addition, we receive trade credit for the purchase of food, beverages and supplies, thereby reducing the need for incremental working capital to support growth.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$81.6 million in 2011 compared to \$44.8 million in 2010. This increase was primarily due to spending on capital expenditures as a result of more restaurant openings in 2011 compared to 2010 and more planned openings in 2012. We opened 20 company restaurants in 2011 and plan to open 25 company restaurants in 2012. Net cash used in investing activities was \$44.8 million in 2010 compared to \$43.1 million in 2009. This increase was primarily due to spending on capital expenditures. While we opened 14 restaurants in 2010, compared to 17 restaurants in 2009, we had more restaurants in the development pipeline in 2010 as a result of planned increased growth in 2011.

We require capital principally for the development of new company restaurants, the refurbishment of existing restaurants and the acquisitions of franchise restaurants, if any. We either lease our restaurant site locations under operating leases for periods of five to 30 years (including renewal periods) or purchase the land where it is cost effective. As of December 27, 2011, there were 121 restaurants developed on land which we owned.

The following table presents a summary of capital expenditures related to the development of new restaurants, the refurbishment of existing restaurants and the acquisition of franchise restaurants:

<u>(in 000's)</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
New company restaurants	\$ 63,494	\$ 29,796	\$ 30,633
Refurbishment of existing restaurants(1)	18,264	15,255	14,883
Total capital expenditures	\$ 81,758	\$ 45,051	\$ 45,516
Acquisition of franchise restaurants, net of cash acquired	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 25
Restaurant-related repairs and maintenance expense(2)	\$ 12,593	\$ 11,888	\$ 11,088

(1) Includes minimal capital expenditures related to support center office.

(2) These amounts were recorded as an expense in the income statement as incurred.

Our future capital requirements will primarily depend on the number of new restaurants we open, the timing of those openings and the restaurant prototype developed in a given fiscal year. These requirements will include costs directly related to opening new restaurants and may also include costs necessary to ensure that our infrastructure is able to support a larger restaurant base. In 2012, we expect our capital expenditures to be \$80.0 to \$85.0 million, the majority of which will relate to planned restaurant openings, including 25 restaurant openings in 2012. This amount excludes any cash used for franchise acquisitions. We intend to satisfy our capital requirements over the next 12 months with cash on hand, net cash provided by operating activities and, if needed, funds available under our credit facility. For 2012, we anticipate net cash provided by operating activities will exceed capital expenditures, which we currently plan to use to repurchase common stock, pay dividends, as approved by our Board of Directors, and/or repay borrowings under our credit facility.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$64.4 million in 2011 compared to \$39.7 million in 2010. This increase was primarily due to the repurchase of shares of common stock in 2011 of \$59.1 million,

the payment of dividends in 2011 of \$17.0 million and a decrease in the proceeds from the exercise of stock options, partially offset by increased borrowings under our credit facility of \$10.0 million. Net cash used in financing activities was \$39.7 million in 2010 compared to \$30.4 million in 2009. This increase was primarily due to increased payments on borrowings under our credit facility, partially offset by an increase in proceeds from the exercise of stock options.

On February 17, 2011, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program under which it authorized us to repurchase up to \$50.0 million of our common stock. On August 18, 2011, our Board of Directors approved a \$50.0 million increase in our stock repurchase program. During 2011, we paid approximately \$59.1 million to repurchase 3,972,100 shares of our common stock and we had \$40.9 million remaining under our authorized stock repurchase program as of December 27, 2011. On February 16, 2012, our Board of Directors cancelled this stock repurchase program, which had no expiration date, and approved a new stock repurchase program under which it authorized the Company to repurchase up to \$100 million of its common stock. Any repurchases will be made through open market transactions. The timing and the amount of any repurchases will be determined by management under parameters established by our Board of Directors, based on its evaluation of our stock price, market conditions and other corporate considerations

We paid cash dividends of \$17.0 million in 2011. On November 17, 2011, our Board of Directors authorized the payment of a cash dividend of \$0.08 per share of common stock. This payment was distributed on December 30, 2011 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 14, 2011. The declared dividends are included as a liability on our consolidated balance sheet as of December 27, 2011. Additionally, on February 16, 2012, our Board of Directors authorized the payment of a cash dividend of \$0.09 per share of common stock. This payment will be distributed on March 30, 2012 to shareholders of record at the close of business on March 14, 2012. The increase in the dividend per share amount reflects the increase in our annual dividend rate from \$0.32 per share in 2011 to \$0.36 per share in 2012. The declaration and payment of cash dividends on our common stock is at the discretion of our Board of Directors, and any decision to declare a dividend will be based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, earnings, financial condition, applicable covenants under our credit facility and other contractual restrictions, or other factors deemed relevant.

We paid distributions of \$2.3 million and \$2.2 million to equity holders of 11 of our majority-owned company restaurants in 2011 and 10 of our majority-owned company restaurants in 2010, respectively. In 2009, we paid \$2.1 million to equity holders of nine of our majority-owned company restaurants.

On August 12, 2011, we entered into a new \$200.0 million five-year revolving credit facility with a syndicate of commercial lenders led by JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., PNC Bank, N.A., and Wells Fargo, N.A. This facility replaces our previous five-year revolving credit facility. The new facility expires on August 12, 2016. The terms of the facility require us to pay interest on outstanding borrowings at the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") plus a margin of 0.875% to 1.875%, depending on our leverage ratio, or the Alternate Base Rate, which is the higher of the issuing bank's prime lending rate or the Federal Funds rate plus 0.50%. We are also required to pay a commitment fee of 0.150% to 0.350% per year on any unused portion of the facility, depending on our leverage ratio. The weighted-average interest rate for the revolver at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010 was 3.20% and 3.59%, respectively, including interest rate swaps. At December 27, 2011, we had \$60.0 million of outstanding borrowing under our credit facility and \$136.2 million of availability net of \$3.8 million of outstanding letters of credit. At December 28, 2010 we had \$50.0 million of outstanding borrowings under our credit facility and \$196.2 million of availability net of \$3.8 million of outstanding letters of credit.

The lenders' obligation to extend credit under the facility depends on us maintaining certain financial covenants, including a minimum consolidated fixed charge coverage ratio of 2.00 to 1.00 and a

maximum consolidated leverage ratio of 3.00 to 1.00. The credit facility permits us to incur additional secured or unsecured indebtedness outside the facility, except for the incurrence of secured indebtedness that in the aggregate exceeds 20% of our consolidated tangible net worth or circumstances where the incurrence of secured or unsecured indebtedness would prevent us from complying with our financial covenants. We were in compliance with all covenants as of December 27, 2011.

In addition to the amounts outstanding from our credit facility, we had various other notes payable totaling \$1.7 million and \$1.9 million at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, respectively, with interest rates ranging from 10.46% to 10.80%. Each of these notes relate to the financing of specific restaurants. Our total weighted average effective interest rate at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010 was 3.40% and 3.84%, respectively.

On October 22, 2008, we entered into an interest rate swap, starting on November 7, 2008, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under our revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 3.83% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the 1-month LIBOR for a term ending on November 7, 2015, effectively resulting in a fixed rate LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount. Our counterparty in the interest rate swap is JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

On January 7, 2009, we entered into another interest rate swap, starting on February 7, 2009, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under our revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 2.34% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the 1-month LIBOR rate for a term ending on January 7, 2016, effectively resulting in a fixed rate LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount. Our counterparty in this interest rate swap is JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

Contractual Obligations

The following table summarizes the amount of payments due under specified contractual obligations as of December 27, 2011:

	Payments Due by Period				
	Total	Less than 1 year	1 - 3 Years (in thousands)	3 - 5 Years	More than 5 years
Long-term debt obligations	\$ 61,679	\$ 206	\$ 483	\$ 60,440	\$ 550
Capital lease obligations	226	98	128	—	—
Interest(1)	12,752	2,299	4,497	4,248	1,708
Operating lease obligations	199,538	22,999	44,848	38,189	93,502
Capital obligations	58,618	58,618	—	—	—
Total contractual obligations(2)	<u>\$ 332,813</u>	<u>\$ 84,220</u>	<u>\$ 49,956</u>	<u>\$ 102,877</u>	<u>\$ 95,760</u>

- (1) Assumes constant rate until maturity for our fixed and variable rate debt and capital lease obligations. Uses interest rates as of December 27, 2011 for our variable rate debt. Interest payments on our variable-rate revolving credit facility balance at December 27, 2011 are calculated based on the assumption that debt relating to the interest rate swaps covering notional amounts

totaling \$50.0 million remains outstanding until the expiration of the respective swap arrangements. The interest rates used in determining interest payments to be made under the interest rate swap agreements were determined by taking the applicable fixed rate of each swap plus the 0.50% margin, which was in effect as of December 27, 2011.

- (2) Unrecognized tax benefits under Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 740 are immaterial and, therefore, are excluded from this amount.

The Company has no material minimum purchase commitments with its vendors that extend beyond a year. See notes 3 and 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for details of contractual obligations.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Except for operating leases (primarily restaurant leases), we do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

Guarantees

We entered into real estate lease agreements for franchise restaurants located in Everett, MA, Longmont, CO, Montgomeryville, PA, Fargo, ND and Logan, UT prior to our granting franchise rights for those restaurants. We have subsequently assigned the leases to the franchisees, but we remain contingently liable if a franchisee defaults under the terms of a lease. The Longmont lease expires in May 2014, the Everett lease expires in February 2018, the Montgomeryville lease expires in March 2021, the Fargo lease expires in July 2016 and the Logan lease expires on August 2019. As the fair value of these guarantees is not considered significant, no liability value has been recorded.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Fair Value Measures and Disclosures (ASU 2010-06)

In January 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU 2010-06 which amends ASC 820, *Fair Value Measures and Disclosures*. ASU No. 2010-06 amends the ASC to require disclosure of transfer into and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements, and also require more detailed disclosure about the activity within Level 3 fair value measurements. The changes as a result of this update are effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009 (our 2010 fiscal year), except for requirements related to Level 3 disclosures, which are effective for annual and interim period beginning after December 15, 2010 (our 2011 fiscal year). This guidance requires new disclosures only, and had no impact on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Comprehensive Income (ASU 2011-05)

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, *Presentation of Comprehensive Income*. ASU 2011-05 eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity, which is our current presentation, and also requires presentation of reclassification adjustments from other comprehensive income to net income on the face of the financial statements. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12, *Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in ASU 2011-05*, to defer the effective date of the specific requirement to present items that are reclassified out of accumulated comprehensive income to net income alongside their respective components of net income and other comprehensive income. All other provisions of

this update are effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2011 (our 2012 fiscal year). The adoption of this new guidance will have no impact on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows, though it will change our financial statement presentation.

Goodwill and Other Intangibles
(ASU 2011-08)

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other, Testing Goodwill for Impairment*, which permits an entity to make a qualitative assessment of whether it is more likely than not that a reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying value before applying the two-step goodwill impairment model that is currently in place. If it is determined through the qualitative assessment that a reporting unit's fair value is more likely than not greater than its carrying value, the remaining impairment steps would be unnecessary. The qualitative assessment is optional, allowing companies to go directly to the quantitative assessment. This update is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011 (our 2012 fiscal year), with early adoption permitted. We do not anticipate any changes to the content of our financial statements or disclosures as a result of adopting this guidance.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The above discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. Our significant accounting policies are described in note 2 to the accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements. Critical accounting policies are those that we believe are most important to portraying our financial condition and results of operations and also require the greatest amount of subjective or complex judgments by management. Judgments or uncertainties regarding the application of these policies may result in materially different amounts being reported under different conditions or using different assumptions. We consider the following policies to be the most critical in understanding the judgments that are involved in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

Impairment of Long-lived Assets. We evaluate our long-lived assets for impairment at the individual restaurant level when events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a restaurant may not be recoverable. When we evaluate restaurants, cash flows are the primary indicator of impairment. Our evaluation requires an estimation of the future undiscounted cash flows from operating the restaurant over its estimated useful life, which can be for a period of over 20 years. In the estimation of future cash flows, we consider the period of time the restaurant has been open, the trend of operations over such period and future periods and expectations for future sales growth. We limit assumptions about important factors such as trend of future operations and sales growth to those that are supportable based upon our plans for the restaurant and actual results at comparable restaurants. Both qualitative and quantitative information are considered when evaluating for potential impairments. As we assess the ongoing expected cash flows and carrying amounts of our long-lived assets, these factors could cause us to realize a material impairment charge.

If assets are determined to be impaired, we measure the impairment charge by calculating the amount by which the asset carrying amount exceeds its fair value. The determination of asset fair value is also subject to significant judgment. We generally measure estimated fair value by discounting estimated future cash flows or by independent third party appraisal, if available. When fair value is measured by discounting estimated future cash flows, the assumptions used are consistent with what we believe hypothetical market participants would use. We also use a discount rate that is commensurate with the risk inherent in the projected cash flows. If these assumptions change in the future, we may be required to record impairment charges for these assets.

See note 14 in the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion regarding closures and impairments recorded in 2011, 2010 and 2009, including the impairments of goodwill and other long-lived assets.

Goodwill. Goodwill is tested annually for impairment, and is tested more frequently if events and circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. We have assigned goodwill to the reporting unit, which we consider to be the individual restaurant level. An impairment loss is recognized to the extent that the carrying amount exceeds the implied fair value of goodwill. The determination of impairment consists of two steps. First, we determine the fair value of the reporting unit and compare it to its carrying amount. The fair value of the reporting unit may be based on several valuation approaches including capitalization of earnings, discounted cash flows, comparable public company market multiples and comparable acquisition market multiples. Second, if the carrying amount of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, an impairment loss is recognized for any excess of the carrying amount of the reporting unit's goodwill over the implied fair value of the goodwill. The implied fair value of goodwill is determined by allocating the fair value of the reporting unit, in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation. The residual fair value after this allocation is the implied fair value of the reporting unit goodwill.

The valuation approaches used to determine fair value are subject to key judgments and assumptions that are sensitive to change such as judgment and assumptions about our appropriate revenue growth rates, operating margins, weighted average cost of capital, and comparable company and acquisition market multiples. In estimating the fair value using the discounted cash flows or the capitalization of earnings method we consider the period of time the restaurant has been open, the trend of operations over such period and future periods, expectations of future sales growth and terminal value. Assumptions about important factors such as trend of future operations and sales growth are limited to those that are supportable based upon the plans for the restaurant and actual results at comparable restaurants. When developing these key judgments and assumptions, we consider economic, operational and market conditions that could impact our fair value. The judgments and assumptions used are consistent with what we believe hypothetical market participants would use. However, estimates are inherently uncertain and represent only our reasonable expectations regarding future developments. If the estimates used in performing the impairment test prove inaccurate, the fair value of the restaurants may ultimately prove to be significantly lower, thereby causing the carrying value to exceed the fair value and indicating impairment has occurred.

At December 27, 2011, we had 64 reporting units, primarily at the restaurant level, with allocated goodwill of \$111.0 million. The average amount of goodwill associated with each reporting unit is \$1.7 million with six reporting units having goodwill in excess of \$4.0 million. Based on our estimate of fair value, we are currently monitoring seven restaurants with total goodwill of \$16.6 million for potential impairment. Since we determine the fair value of goodwill at the restaurant level, any significant decreases in cash flows at these restaurants or others could trigger an impairment charge in the future. The fair value of each of our other reporting units was substantially in excess of their respective carrying values as of the 2011 goodwill impairment test. See note 14 in the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion regarding closures and impairments recorded in 2011, 2010 and 2009, including the impairments of goodwill and other long-lived assets.

Insurance Reserves. We self-insure a significant portion of expected losses under our workers compensation, general liability, employment practices liability and property insurance programs. In addition, starting in fiscal 2011, we self-insure a significant portion of expected losses under our employee healthcare insurance program. We purchase insurance for individual claims that exceed the amounts listed below:

Employment practices liability	\$ 250,000
Workers compensation	\$ 250,000
General liability	\$ 250,000
Property	\$ 50,000
Employee healthcare	\$ 150,000

We record a liability for unresolved claims and for an estimate of incurred but not reported claims at the anticipated cost to us based on estimates provided by management, a third party administrator and/or an actuary. Our estimated liability is based on a number of assumptions and factors regarding economic conditions, the frequency and severity of claims and claim development history and settlement practices. An increase or decrease in the discount rate of 100 basis points would change the reserve, and resulting expense, by an immaterial amount. We also monitor actuarial observations of historical claim development for the industry. Our assumptions are reviewed, monitored, and adjusted when warranted by changing circumstances.

Income Taxes. We account for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740 under which deferred assets and liabilities are recognized based upon anticipated future tax consequences attributable to differences between financial statement carrying values of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. A valuation allowance is established to reduce the carrying value of deferred tax assets if it is considered more likely than not that such assets will not be realized. Any change in the valuation allowance would be charged to income in the period such determination was made.

Uncertain tax positions are accounted for under FASB ASC 740. FASB ASC 740 requires that a position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return be recognized in the financial statements when it is more likely than not (i.e., a likelihood of more than fifty percent) that the position would be sustained upon examination by tax authorities that have full knowledge of all relevant information. A recognized tax position is then measured at the largest amount of benefit that is greater than fifty percent likely of being realized upon settlement.

Leases and Leasehold Improvements. We lease land, buildings and/or certain equipment for the majority of our restaurants under non-cancelable lease agreements. Our land and building leases typically have initial terms ranging from 10 to 15 years, and certain renewal options for one or more five-year periods. We account for leases in accordance with ASC 840, *Leases*, and other related authoritative guidance. When determining the lease term, we include option periods for which failure to renew the lease imposes a penalty on us in such an amount that a renewal appears, at the inception of the lease, to be reasonably assured. The primary penalty to which we are subject is the economic detriment associated with the existence of leasehold improvements which might become impaired if we choose not to continue the use of the leased property.

Certain of our operating leases contain predetermined fixed escalations of the minimum rent during the original term of the lease. For these leases, we recognize the related rent expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term and record the difference between the amounts charged to operations and amounts paid as deferred rent. We generally do not receive rent concessions or leasehold improvement incentives upon opening a restaurant that is subject to a lease. We may receive rent holidays, which would begin on the possession date and end on the date construction of the restaurant begins, during which no cash rent payments are typically due under the terms of the lease. Rent holidays are included in the lease term when determining straight-line rent expense.

Additionally, certain of our operating leases contain clauses that provide for additional contingent rent based on a percentage of sales greater than certain specified target amounts. We recognize contingent rent expense prior to the achievement of the specified target that triggers the contingent rent, provided achievement of the target is considered probable. This may result in some variability in rent expense as a percentage of revenues over the term of the lease in restaurants where we pay contingent rent.

We make judgments regarding the probable term for each restaurant property lease, which can impact the classification and accounting for a lease as capital or operating, the rent holiday and/or escalations in payments that are taken into consideration when calculating straight-line rent and the term over which leasehold improvements for each restaurant are amortized. These judgments may produce materially different amounts of depreciation, amortization and rent expense than would be reported if different assumed lease terms were used.

In an exposure draft issued in 2010, the FASB, together with the International Accounting Standards Board, has proposed a comprehensive set of changes in Generally Accepted Accounting Policies ("GAAP") for leases. We are continuing to monitor the FASB and International Accounting Standards Board's activities regarding leases and will disclose expected impacts on our business and financial statements as rules are finalized.

Effects of Inflation

We believe inflation has had a negative effect on our restaurant profitability during the past few years as we have not substantially offset increases in our restaurant and operating costs resulting from inflation by altering our menu, increasing menu prices and/or making other adjustments. Whether we are able and/or choose to offset the effects of inflation will determine to what, if any, extent inflation affects our restaurant profitability in future periods.

ITEM 7A—QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We are exposed to market risk from changes in interest rates on debt and changes in commodity prices. Our exposure to interest rate fluctuations is limited to our outstanding bank debt. Our options for the rate are the Base Rate, which is the higher of the issuing bank's prime lending rate or the Federal Funds rate plus 0.50%, or LIBOR plus an applicable margin. At December 27, 2011, there was \$60.0 million in outstanding borrowings under our revolving line of credit, which bears interest at approximately 87.5 to 187.5 basis points (depending on our leverage ratios) over LIBOR. We had various other notes payable totaling \$1.7 million with fixed interest rates ranging from 10.46% to 10.80%.

On October 22, 2008, we entered into an interest rate swap, which started on November 7, 2008, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under our revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 3.83% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the 1-month LIBOR rate for a term ending on November 7, 2015, effectively resulting in a fixed rate on the LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount.

On January 7, 2009, we entered into another interest rate swap, starting February 7, 2009, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under our revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 2.34% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the

1-month LIBOR rate for a term ending on January 7, 2016, effectively resulting in a fixed rate LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount.

By using a derivative instrument to hedge exposures to changes in interest rates, we expose ourselves to credit risk. Credit risk is the failure of the counterparty to perform under the terms of the derivative contract. We minimize the credit risk by entering into transactions with high-quality counterparties whose credit rating is evaluated on a quarterly basis. Our counterparty in the interest rate swap is JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

Many of the ingredients used in the products sold in our restaurants are commodities that are subject to unpredictable price volatility. There are no established fixed price markets for certain commodities such as produce and cheese, and we are subject to prevailing market conditions when purchasing those types of commodities. For other commodities, we employ various purchasing and pricing contract techniques in an effort to minimize volatility, including fixed price contracts for terms of one year or less and negotiating prices with vendors with reference to fluctuating market prices. We currently do not use financial instruments to hedge commodity prices, but we will continue to evaluate their effectiveness. Extreme and/or long term increases in commodity prices could adversely affect our future results, especially if we are unable, primarily due to competitive reasons, to increase menu prices. Additionally, if there is a time lag between the increasing commodity prices and our ability to increase menu prices or if we believe the commodity price increase to be short in duration and we choose not to pass on the cost increases, our short-term financial results could be negatively affected.

We are subject to business risk as our beef supply is highly dependent upon four vendors. While we maintain relationships with additional suppliers, if any of these vendors were unable to fulfill its obligations under its contracts, we may encounter supply shortages and incur higher costs to secure adequate supplies, any of which would harm our business.

ITEM 8—FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL DATA

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements at Item 15.

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

None.

ITEM 9A—CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

We have evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to, and as defined in, Rules 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on the evaluation, performed under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including the Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO") and the Chief Financial Officer (the "CFO"), our management, including the CEO and CFO, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 27, 2011.

Changes in internal control

During the fourth quarter of 2011, there were no changes with respect to our internal control over financial reporting that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, our management is required to assess the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of the end of each fiscal year and report, based on that assessment, whether the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective.

Management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. As defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f), internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, our principal executive and principal financial officer and effected by our board of directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Therefore, internal control over financial reporting determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and may not prevent or detect all misstatements.

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our CEO and CFO, we assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of the end of the period covered by this report. In this assessment, the Company applied criteria based on the "Internal Control—Integrated Framework" issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. These criteria are in the areas of control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring. The Company's assessment included documenting, evaluating and testing the design and operating effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting. Based upon this evaluation, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 27, 2011.

KPMG LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm that audited our Consolidated Financial Statements included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K, has also audited the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 27, 2011 as stated in their report at F-1.

ITEM 9B—OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

ITEM 10—DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Information regarding the directors of the Company is incorporated herein by reference to the information set forth under "Election of Directors" in the Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

Information regarding executive officers of the Company has been included in Part I of this Annual Report under the caption "Executive Officers of the Company."

Information regarding corporate governance of the Company is incorporated herein by reference to the information set forth in the Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

ITEM 11—EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Incorporated by reference from the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement to be dated approximately April 6, 2012.

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

Incorporated by reference from the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement to be dated approximately April 6, 2012.

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

Incorporated by reference from the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement to be dated approximately April 6, 2012.

ITEM 14—PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

Incorporated by reference from the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement to be dated approximately April 6, 2012.

PART IV

ITEM 15—EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) 1. Consolidated Financial Statements

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page Number in Report</u>
Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-1
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010	F-3
Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009	F-4
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009	F-6
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-7

2. Financial Statement Schedules

Omitted due to inapplicability or because required information is shown in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements or notes thereto.

3. Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
3.1	Form of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))
3.2	Bylaws of Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))
4.1	Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of May 7, 2004, among Registrant and others (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))
10.1 *	Texas Roadhouse, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-8 of Registrant (File No. 333-121241))
10.2	Amended and Restated Office Lease Agreement (One Paragon Centre), dated as of August 15, 2003, by and between Paragon Centre Associates, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))
10.3	Form of Director and Executive Officer Indemnification Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))
10.4	Form of Limited Partnership Agreement and Operating Agreement for company-managed Texas Roadhouse restaurants, including schedule of the owners of such restaurants and the interests held by directors, executive officers and 5% stockholders who are parties to such an agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))

Exhibit No.	Description
10.5	Lease Agreement dated as of November 1999, by and between TEAS II, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))
10.6	Form of Franchise Agreement and Preliminary Agreement for a Texas Roadhouse restaurant franchise, including schedule of directors, executive officers and 5% stockholders which have entered into either agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Registrant (File No. 333-115259))
10.7	Updated schedule as of December 28, 2010 of the owners of company-managed Texas Roadhouse restaurants and the interests held by directors, executive officers and 5% stockholders who are parties to Limited Partnership Agreements and Operating Agreements as set forth at Exhibit 10.4 of this Form 10-K
10.8	Updated schedule as of December 28, 2010 of the directors, executive officers and 5% stockholders which have entered into Franchise Agreements or Preliminary Agreements for a Texas Roadhouse Franchise as set forth at Exhibit 10.6 of this Form 10-K
10.9	Amended and Restated Lease Agreement (Two Paragon Centre) dated January 1, 2006 between Paragon Centre Holdings, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.17 of Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 27, 2006) (File No. 000-50972))
10.10	First Amendment to Amended and Restated Lease Agreement (Two Paragon Centre) dated December 18, 2006 between Paragon Centre Holdings, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.21 of Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 26, 2006) (File No. 000-50972))
10.11	Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of August 12, 2011, by and among Texas Roadhouse, Inc., the lenders named therein and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 17, 2011 (File No. 000-50972))
10.12	Second Amendment to Amended and Restated Lease Agreement (Two Paragon Centre) dated May 10, 2007 between Paragon Centre Holdings, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 26, 2007) (File No. 000-50972))
10.13	Third Amendment to Amended and Restated Lease Agreement (Two Paragon Centre) dated September 7, 2007 between Paragon Centre Holdings, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 25, 2007) (File No. 000-50972))
10.19*	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.19 of Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 25, 2007 (File No. 000-50972))
10.20*	Form of First Amendment to Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement with non-management directors (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.20 of Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2008 (File No. 000-50972))
10.21*	Amendment to Texas Roadhouse, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.21 of Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2008 (File No. 000-50972))

Exhibit No.	Description
10.27	Fourth Amendment to Amended and Restated Lease Agreement (Two Paragon Centre) dated July 22, 2009 between Paragon Centre Holdings LLC and Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 29, 2009 (File No. 000-50977))
10.33*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and G. Price Cooper, IV entered into as of January 8, 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.33 to Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 18, 2011 (File No. 000-50972))
10.34*	Letter Agreement between Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and G.J. Hart entered into on August 22, 2011, effective as of August 17, 2011 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.34 to Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 23, 2011 (File No. 000-50972))
10.35*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and W. Kent Taylor, entered into as of January 8, 2012
10.36*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and Scott M. Colosi, entered into as of January 8, 2012
10.37*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and Steven L. Ortiz, entered into as of January 8, 2012
10.38*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and G. Price Cooper, IV, entered into as of January 8, 2012
10.39*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and Jill Marchant, entered into as of January 8, 2012
21.1	List of Subsidiaries
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
101	The following financial statements from the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 27, 2011, filed February 24, 2012, formatted in eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL): (i) Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) Consolidated Statements of Income, (iii) Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income, (iv) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, and (v) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

* Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to Form 10-K.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE, INC.

By: /s/ W. KENT TAYLOR

W. KENT TAYLOR
*Chairman of the Company, Chief Executive
Officer, Director*

Date: February 24, 2012

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, this Annual Report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ W. KENT TAYLOR</u> W. Kent Taylor	Chairman of the Company, Chief Executive Officer, Director (Principal Executive Officer)	February 24, 2012
<u>/s/ G. PRICE COOPER, IV</u> G. Price Cooper, IV	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	February 24, 2012
<u>/s/ GREGORY N. MOORE</u> Gregory N. Moore	Director	February 24, 2012
<u>/s/ MARTIN T. HART</u> Martin T. Hart	Director	February 24, 2012
<u>/s/ JAMES F. PARKER</u> James F. Parker	Director	February 24, 2012
<u>/s/ JAMES R. RAMSEY</u> James R. Ramsey	Director	February 24, 2012
<u>/s/ JAMES R. ZARLEY</u> James R. Zarley	Director	February 24, 2012

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders
Texas Roadhouse, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity and comprehensive income, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 27, 2011. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 27, 2011, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Texas Roadhouse, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 27, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated February 24, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Louisville, Kentucky
February 24, 2012

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders
Texas Roadhouse, Inc.:

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. as of December 27, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Texas Roadhouse, Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting appearing under Item 9A. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Texas Roadhouse Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Texas Roadhouse, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 27, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity and comprehensive income, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 27, 2011, and our report dated February 24, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Louisville, Kentucky
February 24, 2012

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Balance Sheets

(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 73,731	\$ 82,215
Receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$39 in 2011 and \$222 in 2010	16,526	12,563
Inventories, net	10,730	9,197
Prepaid income taxes	575	375
Prepaid expenses	7,045	7,204
Deferred tax assets	3,367	2,368
Total current assets	111,974	113,922
Property and equipment, net	497,217	458,983
Goodwill	110,946	111,785
Intangible assets, net	9,042	10,118
Other assets	11,491	7,993
Total assets	<u>\$ 740,670</u>	<u>\$ 702,801</u>
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term debt and obligations under capital leases	\$ 304	\$ 274
Accounts payable	32,744	26,864
Deferred revenue—gift cards/certificates	44,058	39,165
Accrued wages	23,701	21,050
Accrued taxes and licenses	12,381	12,318
Dividends payable	5,535	—
Other accrued liabilities	17,649	12,387
Total current liabilities	136,372	112,058
Long-term debt and obligations under capital leases, excluding current maturities	61,601	51,906
Stock option and other deposits	4,546	4,052
Deferred rent	17,133	14,457
Deferred tax liabilities	8,715	8,444
Fair value of derivative financial instruments	4,247	2,178
Other liabilities	12,234	10,324
Total liabilities	244,848	203,419
Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock (\$0.001 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued or outstanding)	—	—
Common stock (\$0.001 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 69,186,967 and 72,222,991 shares issued and outstanding at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, respectively)	69	72
Additional paid in capital	206,019	250,874
Retained earnings	288,425	247,008
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(2,609)	(1,338)
Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries stockholders' equity	491,904	496,616
Noncontrolling interests	3,918	2,766
Total equity	495,822	499,382
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 740,670</u>	<u>\$ 702,801</u>

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Income

(in thousands, except per share data)

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	December 29, 2009
Revenue:			
Restaurant sales	\$ 1,099,475	\$ 995,988	\$ 934,100
Franchise royalties and fees	9,751	9,005	8,231
Total revenue	<u>1,109,226</u>	<u>1,004,993</u>	<u>942,331</u>
Costs and expenses:			
Restaurant operating costs:			
Cost of sales	367,385	324,267	312,800
Labor	326,233	293,022	276,626
Rent	23,150	21,361	20,018
Other operating	184,073	172,893	158,961
Pre-opening	11,534	7,051	5,813
Depreciation and amortization	42,709	41,283	41,822
Impairment and closures	1,201	2,005	3,000
General and administrative	57,702	52,494	47,430
Total costs and expenses	<u>1,013,987</u>	<u>914,376</u>	<u>866,470</u>
Income from operations	95,239	90,617	75,861
Interest expense, net	2,413	2,673	3,273
Equity income from investments in unconsolidated affiliates	(366)	(428)	(221)
Income before taxes	<u>\$ 93,192</u>	<u>\$ 88,372</u>	<u>\$ 72,809</u>
Provision for income taxes	26,765	27,683	23,491
Net income including noncontrolling interests	<u>\$ 66,427</u>	<u>\$ 60,689</u>	<u>\$ 49,318</u>
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	2,463	2,400	1,839
Net income attributable to Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries	<u>\$ 63,964</u>	<u>\$ 58,289</u>	<u>\$ 47,479</u>
Net income per common share:			
Basic	<u>\$ 0.90</u>	<u>\$ 0.82</u>	<u>\$ 0.68</u>
Diluted	<u>\$ 0.88</u>	<u>\$ 0.80</u>	<u>\$ 0.67</u>
Weighted average shares outstanding:			
Basic	<u>70,829</u>	<u>71,432</u>	<u>69,967</u>
Diluted	<u>72,278</u>	<u>72,929</u>	<u>71,298</u>
Cash dividends declared per share	<u>\$ 0.32</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income

(in thousands, except share data)

[illegible]

net of tax of \$0.8 million	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1,271)	(1,271)	—	(1,271)
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	63,964	—	63,964	2,463	66,427
Total comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62,693	2,463	65,156
Distributions to noncontrolling interests	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(2,270)	(2,270)
Minority interest contribution	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	959	959
Minority interest liquidation adjustments	—	—	—	—	(37)	—	—	(37)	—	(37)
Dividends paid (\$0.24 per share)	—	—	—	—	—	(17,012)	—	(17,012)	—	(17,012)
Dividends declared (\$0.08 per share)	—	—	—	—	—	(5,535)	—	(5,535)	—	(5,535)
Shares issued under stock option plan including tax effects	477,525	1	—	—	7,283	—	—	7,284	—	7,284
Repurchase of shares of common stock	(3,972,100)	(4)	—	—	(59,143)	—	—	(59,147)	—	(59,147)
Indirect repurchase of shares for minimum tax withholdings	458,551	—	—	—	(3,483)	—	—	(3,483)	—	(3,483)
Share-based compensation	—	—	—	—	10,525	—	—	10,525	—	10,525
Balance, December 27, 2011	69,186,967	\$ 69	—	\$ —	\$206,019	\$288,425	\$ (2,609)	\$ 491,904	\$ 3,918	\$495,822

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(in thousands)

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	December 29, 2009
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income including noncontrolling interests	\$ 66,427	\$ 60,689	\$ 49,318
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	42,709	41,283	41,822
Deferred income taxes	70	1,799	(126)
Loss on disposition of assets	2,378	1,766	1,183
Impairment and closure	1,127	1,821	2,908
Equity income from investments in unconsolidated affiliates	(366)	(428)	(221)
Distributions received from investments in unconsolidated affiliates	336	383	322
Provision for doubtful accounts	183	(43)	387
Share-based compensation expense	10,525	7,686	7,493
Changes in operating working capital:			
Receivables	(4,146)	(208)	(2,777)
Inventories	(1,533)	(1,193)	136
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	159	(1,593)	468
Other assets	(3,497)	(1,058)	(2,755)
Accounts payable	5,880	(1,018)	(4,293)
Deferred revenue—gift cards/certificates	4,893	4,722	2,178
Accrued wages	2,651	864	4,686
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	(2,255)	(3,159)	(1,774)
Prepaid income taxes and income taxes payable	2,055	(3,212)	11,962
Accrued taxes and licenses	63	3,739	15
Other accrued liabilities	5,262	1,715	(287)
Deferred rent	2,676	2,368	2,169
Other liabilities	1,910	2,985	2,315
Net cash provided by operating activities	137,507	119,908	115,129
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Capital expenditures—property and equipment	(81,758)	(45,051)	(45,516)
Acquisition of franchise restaurants, net of cash acquired	—	—	25
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment, including insurance proceeds	188	235	2,357
Net cash used in investing activities	(81,570)	(44,816)	(43,134)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from (repayments of) revolving credit facility, net	10,000	(49,000)	(31,000)
Repurchase of shares of common stock	(59,147)	—	—
Investments in unconsolidated affiliates	—	(35)	(34)
Distributions to noncontrolling interest holders	(2,270)	(2,212)	(2,068)
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	2,255	3,159	1,774
Proceeds from (repayment of) stock option and other deposits	494	399	(131)
Indirect repurchase of shares for minimum tax withholdings	(3,483)	(2,828)	(1,484)
Principal payments on long-term debt and capital lease obligations	(275)	(246)	(284)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	5,017	11,028	2,832
Dividends paid to shareholders	(17,012)	—	—
Net cash used in financing activities	(64,421)	(39,735)	(30,395)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(8,484)	35,357	41,600
Cash and cash equivalents—beginning of year	82,215	46,858	5,258
Cash and cash equivalents—end of year	\$ 73,731	\$ 82,215	\$ 46,858
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Interest, net of amounts capitalized	\$ 2,368	\$ 2,628	\$ 3,315
Income taxes	\$ 24,641	\$ 29,095	\$ 11,657

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(1) Description of Business

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010 include the accounts of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Company", "we", "our" and/or "us"), and our wholly-owned subsidiaries, Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC ("Holdings"), Texas Roadhouse Development Corporation ("TRDC"), Texas Roadhouse Management Corp ("Management Corp.") and Aspen Creek, LLC ("Aspen Creek"). We and our wholly-owned subsidiaries operate restaurants under the names Texas Roadhouse and Aspen Creek. Holdings also provides supervisory and administrative services for certain other license and franchise restaurants. TRDC sells franchise rights and collects the franchise royalties and fees. Management Corp. provides management services to Holdings, TRDC and certain other license and franchise restaurants.

As of December 27, 2011, we owned and operated 294 restaurants and franchised and licensed an additional 72 restaurants in 47 states and one foreign country. Of the 294 restaurants we owned and operated, 291 operated as Texas Roadhouse restaurants, while three operated under the name of Aspen Creek. Of the 366 restaurants that were operating at December 27, 2011, (i) 294 were Company-owned restaurants, 282 of which were wholly-owned and 12 of which were majority-owned, (ii) 69 were franchise restaurants and (iii) 3 were license restaurants.

As of December 28, 2010, we owned and operated 274 restaurants and franchised or licensed an additional 71 restaurants in 46 states. Of the 274 restaurants we owned and operated, 271 operated as Texas Roadhouse restaurants, while three operated under the name of Aspen Creek. Of the 345 restaurants that were operating at December 28, 2010, (i) 274 were Company-owned restaurants, 263 of which were wholly-owned and 11 of which were majority-owned, (ii) 68 were franchise restaurants and (iii) 3 were license restaurants.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Principles of Consolidation

At December 27, 2011, and December 28, 2010, we had minority ownership in 22 and 21 restaurants, respectively. The unconsolidated restaurants are accounted for using the equity method. We exercise significant control over the operating and financial policies of these entities based on the rights granted to us under each entity's operating or partnership agreement. Notwithstanding the significant control exercised by us over their affairs, we do not consolidate such entities because (i) we own only 5% to 10% of these entities and (ii) the revenue, expense and net income, and assets and liabilities that would be attributable to these entities would not be material to our financial position or results of operations. Should the financial position and results of operations of these entities become material to our financial position and results of operations in future periods, we will consolidate the entities into our results. All significant intercompany balances and transactions for these unconsolidated restaurants as well as the companies whose accounts have been consolidated have been eliminated.

(b) Fiscal Year

We utilize a 52 or 53 week accounting period that ends on the last Tuesday in December. We utilize a 13 or 14 week accounting period for quarterly reporting purposes. Fiscal years 2011, 2010 and 2009 were 52 weeks in length.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the consolidated statements of cash flows, we consider all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Book overdrafts are recorded in accounts payable and are included within operating cash flows.

(d) Receivables

Receivables consist principally of amounts due from certain franchise and license restaurants for reimbursement of labor costs, pre-opening and other expenses, amounts due for royalty fees from franchise restaurants and credit card receivables.

Receivables are recorded at the invoiced amount and do not bear interest. The allowance for doubtful accounts is our best estimate of the amount of probable credit losses in our existing accounts receivable. We determine the allowance based on historical write-off experience. We review our allowance for doubtful accounts quarterly. Past due balances over 120 days and a specified amount are reviewed individually for collectability. Account balances are charged off against the allowance after all means of collection have been exhausted and the potential for recovery is considered remote.

(e) Inventories

Inventories, consisting principally of food, beverages and supplies, are valued at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market.

(f) Pre-opening Expenses

Pre-opening expenses are charged to operations as incurred. These costs include wages, benefits, travel and lodging for the training and opening management teams, rent and food, beverage and other restaurant operating expenses incurred prior to a restaurant opening for business.

(g) Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost. Expenditures for major renewals and betterments are capitalized while expenditures for maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred. Depreciation is computed on property and equipment, including assets located on leased properties, over the shorter of the estimated useful lives of the related assets or the underlying lease term using the straight-line method. In some cases, assets on leased properties are depreciated over a period of time which includes both the initial term of the lease and one or more option periods. See note 2(p).

The estimated useful lives are:

Land improvements	10 - 25 years
Buildings and leasehold improvements	10 - 25 years
Equipment and smallwares	3 - 10 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 - 10 years

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Repairs and maintenance expense amounted to \$12.6 million, \$11.9 million and \$11.1 million for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, respectively. These costs are included in other operating costs in our consolidated statements of income.

(h) Impairment of Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of cost over fair value of assets of businesses acquired. In accordance with the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 350, Intangibles—Goodwill and Other ("ASC 350"), we perform tests to assess potential impairments at the end of each fiscal year or during the year if an event or other circumstance indicates that it may be impaired. Our assessment is performed at the reporting unit level, which is at the individual restaurant level. In the first step of the review process, we compare the estimated fair value of the restaurant with its carrying value, including goodwill. If the estimated fair value of the restaurant exceeds its carrying amount, no further analysis is needed. If the estimated fair value of the restaurant is less than its carrying amount, the second step of the review process requires the calculation of the implied fair value of the goodwill by allocating the estimated fair value of the restaurant to all of the assets and liabilities of the restaurant as if it had been acquired in a business combination. If the carrying value of the goodwill associated with the restaurant exceeds the implied fair value of the goodwill, an impairment loss is recognized for that excess amount.

The valuation approaches used to determine fair value are subject to key judgments and assumptions that are sensitive to change such as judgment and assumptions about our appropriate revenue growth rates, operating margins, weighted average cost of capital and comparable company and acquisition market multiples. In estimating the fair value using the discounted cash flows or the capitalization of earnings method, we consider the period of time the restaurant has been open, the trend of operations over such period and future periods, expectations of future sales growth and terminal value. Assumptions about important factors such as trend of future operations and sales growth are limited to those that are supportable based upon the plans for the restaurant and actual results at comparable restaurants. When developing these key judgments and assumptions, we consider economic, operational and market conditions that could impact our fair value. The judgments and assumptions used are consistent with what we believe hypothetical market participants would use. However, estimates are inherently uncertain and represent only our reasonable expectations regarding future developments. If the estimates used in performing the impairment test prove inaccurate, the fair value of the restaurants may ultimately prove to be significantly lower, thereby causing the carrying value to exceed the fair value and indicating impairment has occurred.

In 2011, as a result of our annual goodwill impairment analysis, we determined that goodwill related to one restaurant was impaired as discussed further in note 14. Refer to note 5 for additional information related to goodwill and intangible assets.

(i) Other Assets

Other assets consist primarily of deferred compensation plan assets, deposits and costs related to the issuance of debt. The debt issuance costs are being amortized to interest expense over the term of the related debt. For further discussion of the deferred compensation plan, see note 13.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(j) Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets

In accordance with ASC 360-10-05, *Property, Plant and Equipment*, long-lived assets related to each restaurant to be held and used in the business, such as property and equipment and intangible assets subject to amortization, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a restaurant may not be recoverable. When we evaluate restaurants, cash flows are the primary indicator of impairment. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of the restaurant to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the restaurant. Our evaluation requires an estimation of future undiscounted cash flows from operating the restaurant over its estimated useful life, which can be for a period of over 20 years. In the estimation of future cash flows, we consider the period of time the restaurant has been open, the trend of operations over such period and future periods and expectations of future sales growth. Assumptions about important factors such as trend of future operations and sales growth are limited to those that are supportable based upon the plans for the restaurant and actual results at comparable restaurants. If the carrying amount of the restaurant exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized by the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair value of the assets. We generally measure fair value by discounting estimated future cash flows or by independent third party appraisal, if available. When fair value is measured by discounting estimated future cash flows, the assumptions used are consistent with what we believe hypothetical market participants would use. We also use a discount rate that is commensurate with the risk inherent in the projected cash flows. The adjusted carrying amounts of assets to be held and used are depreciated over their remaining useful life. Assets to be disposed of within a year would be separately presented in the consolidated balance sheet and reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell, and would no longer be depreciated. In 2011, as a result of our impairment analysis, we determined that the land, building, equipment, furniture and fixtures as one restaurant was impaired. For further discussion regarding closures and impairments recorded in 2011, 2010 and 2009, including the impairments of goodwill and other long-lived assets, refer to note 14.

(k) Insurance Reserves

We self-insure a significant portion of expected losses under our workers compensation, general liability, employment practices liability, property insurance and employee healthcare programs. We purchase insurance for individual claims that exceed the amounts listed below:

Employment practices liability	\$ 250,000
Workers compensation	\$ 250,000
General liability	\$ 250,000
Property	\$ 50,000
Employee healthcare	\$ 150,000

We record a liability for unresolved claims and for an estimate of incurred but not reported claims at our anticipated cost based on estimates provided by a third party administrator and/or actuary. The estimated liability is based on a number of assumptions and factors regarding economic conditions, the frequency and severity of claims and claim development history and settlement practices. Our assumptions are reviewed, monitored, and adjusted when warranted by changing circumstances.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)****(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)*****(l) Segment Reporting***

We consider our restaurant and franchising operations as similar and have aggregated them into a single reportable segment. The majority of the restaurants operate in the U.S. within the casual dining segment of the restaurant industry, providing similar products to similar customers. The restaurants also possess similar pricing structures, resulting in similar long-term expected financial performance characteristics. As of December 27, 2011, we operated 294 restaurants, each as a single operating segment, and franchised or licensed an additional 72 restaurants. Revenue from external customers is derived principally from food and beverage sales. We do not rely on any major customers as a source of revenue. We aggregate similar operating segments into a single reportable operating segment if the businesses are considered similar under ASC 280, *Segment Reporting*.

(m) Revenue Recognition

Revenue from restaurant sales is recognized when food and beverage products are sold. Deferred revenue primarily represents our liability for gift cards and certificates that have been sold, but not yet redeemed. When the gift cards and certificates are redeemed, we recognize restaurant sales and reduce deferred revenue.

For some of the gift cards that were sold, the likelihood of redemption is remote. When the likelihood of a gift card's redemption is determined to be remote, we record a breakage adjustment and reduce deferred revenue by the amount never expected to be redeemed. We use historic gift card redemption patterns to determine when the likelihood of a gift card's redemption becomes remote and have determined that approximately 5% of the value of gift cards will never be redeemed. The methodology we use to match the expected redemption value of unredeemed gift cards to our historic redemption patterns is to amortize the historic 5% rate of breakage over a three year period. As a result, the amount of unredeemed gift card liability included in deferred revenue is the full value of unredeemed gift cards less the amortized portion of the 5% rate of breakage. We recorded our gift card breakage adjustment as a reduction of other operating expense. We review and adjust our estimates on a quarterly basis.

We franchise Texas Roadhouse restaurants. We execute franchise agreements for each franchise restaurant which sets out the terms of our arrangement with the franchisee. Our franchise agreements typically require the franchisee to pay an initial, non-refundable fee and continuing fees based upon a percentage of sales. Subject to our approval and payment of a renewal fee, a franchisee may generally renew the franchise agreement upon its expiration. We collect ongoing royalties of 2.0% to 4.0% of sales from domestic franchise restaurants. These ongoing royalties are reflected in the accompanying consolidated statements of income as franchise royalties and fees. We recognize initial franchise fees as revenue after performing substantially all initial services or conditions required by the franchise agreement, which is generally upon the opening of a restaurant. We received initial franchise fees of \$0.2 million for the year ended December 27, 2011, \$0.1 million for the year ended December 28, 2010 and \$0.2 million for the year ended December 29, 2009. Continuing franchise royalties are recognized as revenue as the fees are earned. We also perform supervisory and administrative services for certain franchise and license restaurants for which we receive management fees, which are recognized as the services are performed. Revenue from supervisory and administrative services is recorded as a reduction of general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

income. Total revenue recorded for supervisory and administrative services for each of the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010, and December 29, 2009 was approximately \$0.6 million, \$0.6 million and \$0.5 million, respectively.

Sales taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities are accounted for on a net basis and therefore are excluded from revenue in the consolidated statements of income.

(n) Income Taxes

We account for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes*, under which deferred assets and liabilities are recognized based upon anticipated future tax consequences attributable to differences between financial statement carrying values of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. A valuation allowance is established to reduce the carrying value of deferred tax assets if it is considered more likely than not that such assets will not be realized. Any change in the valuation allowance would be charged to income in the period such determination was made.

(o) Advertising

We have a domestic system-wide marketing and advertising fund. We maintain control of the marketing and advertising fund and, as such, have consolidated the fund's activity for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009. Domestic company and franchise restaurants are required to remit a designated portion of sales, currently 0.3%, to the advertising fund. These reimbursements do not exceed the costs we incur throughout the year associated with various marketing programs which are developed internally by us. Therefore, the net amount of the advertising costs incurred less amounts remitted by company and franchise restaurants is included in general and administrative expense in our consolidated statements of income.

The company-owned restaurant contribution and other costs related to local restaurant area marketing initiatives are included in other operating costs in our consolidated statements of income. These costs amounted to approximately \$8.5 million, \$7.7 million and \$7.0 million for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, respectively.

(p) Leases and Leasehold Improvements

We lease land, buildings and/or certain equipment for the majority of our restaurants under non-cancelable lease agreements. Our land and building leases typically have initial terms ranging from 10 to 15 years, and certain renewal options for one or more five-year periods. We account for leases in accordance with ASC 840, *Leases*, and other related authoritative guidance. When determining the lease term, we include option periods for which failure to renew the lease imposes a penalty on us in such an amount that a renewal appears, at the inception of the lease, to be reasonably assured. The primary penalty to which we are subject is the economic detriment associated with the existence of leasehold improvements which might become impaired if we choose not to continue the use of the leased property.

Certain of our operating leases contain predetermined fixed escalations of the minimum rent during the original term of the lease. For these leases, we recognize the related rent expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term and record the difference between the amounts charged to

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

operations and amounts paid as deferred rent. We generally do not receive rent concessions or leasehold improvement incentives upon opening a restaurant that is subject to a lease. We may receive rent holidays, which would begin on the possession date and end on the date construction of the restaurant begins, during which no cash rent payments are typically due under the terms of the lease. Rent holidays are included in the lease term when determining straight-line rent expense.

Additionally, certain of our operating leases contain clauses that provide for additional contingent rent based on a percentage of sales greater than certain specified target amounts. We recognize contingent rent expense prior to the achievement of the specified target that triggers the contingent rent, provided achievement of the target is considered probable. This may result in some variability in rent expense as a percentage of revenues over the term of the lease in restaurants where we pay contingent rent.

We make judgments regarding the probable term for each restaurant property lease, which can impact the classification and accounting for a lease as capital or operating, the rent holiday and/or escalations in payments that are taken into consideration when calculating straight-line rent and the term over which leasehold improvements for each restaurant are amortized. These judgments may produce materially different amounts of depreciation, amortization and rent expense than would be reported if different assumed lease terms were used.

In an exposure draft issued in 2010, the FASB, together with the International Accounting Standards Board, has proposed a comprehensive set of changes in U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") for leases.

(q) Use of Estimates

We have made a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the Consolidated Financial Statements and the reporting of revenue and expenses during the period to prepare these Consolidated Financial Statements in conformity with GAAP. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the carrying amount of property and equipment, goodwill, obligations related to insurance reserves, income taxes and share-based compensation expense. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(r) Comprehensive Income

ASC 220, *Comprehensive Income*, establishes standards for reporting and presentation of comprehensive income and its components in a full set of financial statements. Comprehensive income consists of net income and other comprehensive income (loss) items that are excluded from net income under GAAP in the United States. These items included net unrealized gains (losses) on securities and the effective unrealized portion of changes in fair value of cash flow hedges.

(s) Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair value is determined based on the present value of expected future cash flows considering the risks involved and using discount rates appropriate for the duration and considers counterparty performance risk.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(t) *Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*

We do not use derivative instruments for trading purposes. Currently, our only free standing current derivative instruments are two interest rate swap agreements.

We account for derivatives and hedging activities in accordance with ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*, which requires that all derivative instruments be recorded on the consolidated balance sheet at their respective fair values. The accounting for changes in the fair value of a derivative instrument is dependent upon whether the derivative has been designated and qualifies as part of a hedging relationship. Our current derivatives have been designated and qualify as cash flow hedges. For derivative instruments that are designated and qualify as a cash flow hedge, the effective portion of the gain or loss on the derivative instrument is reported as a component of other comprehensive income (loss) and reclassified into earnings in the same period or period during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. There was no hedge ineffectiveness recognized during the periods ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009.

(u) *Recent Accounting Pronouncements*

Fair Value Measures and Disclosures
(ASU 2010-06)

In January 2010, the FASB issued ASU 2010-06 which amends ASC topic 820, *Fair Value Measures and Disclosures*. ASU No. 2010-06 amends the ASC to require disclosure of transfers into and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements, and also requires more detailed disclosure about the activity within Level 3 fair value measurements. The changes as a result of this update are effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009 (our 2010 fiscal year), except for requirements related to Level 3 disclosures, which are effective for annual and interim period beginning after December 15, 2010 (our 2011 fiscal year). This guidance requires new disclosures only, and had no impact on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Comprehensive Income
(ASU 2011-05)

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, *Presentation of Comprehensive Income*. ASU 2011-05 eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity, which is our current presentation, and also requires presentation of reclassification adjustments from other comprehensive income to net income on the face of the financial statements. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12, *Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in ASU 2011-05*, to defer the effective date of the specific requirement to present items that are reclassified out of accumulated comprehensive income to net income alongside their respective components of net income and other comprehensive income. All other provisions of this update are effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2011 (our 2012 fiscal year). The adoption of this new guidance had no impact on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows, though it will change our financial statement presentation.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Goodwill and Other Intangibles
(ASU 2011-08)

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other, Testing Goodwill for Impairment*, which permits an entity to make a qualitative assessment of whether it is more likely than not that a reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying value before applying the two-step goodwill impairment model that is currently in place. If it is determined through the qualitative assessment that a reporting unit's fair value is more likely than not greater than its carrying value, the remaining impairment steps would be unnecessary. The qualitative assessment is optional, allowing companies to go directly to the quantitative assessment. This update is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011 (our 2012 fiscal year). We do not anticipate any changes to the content of our financial statements or disclosures as a result of adopting this guidance.

(3) Long-term Debt and Obligations Under Capital Leases

Long-term debt and obligations under capital leases consisted of the following:

	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010
Installment loans, due 2012 - 2020	\$ 1,679	\$ 1,865
Obligations under capital leases	226	315
Revolver	60,000	50,000
	<u>61,905</u>	<u>52,180</u>
Less current maturities	304	274
	<u>\$ 61,601</u>	<u>\$ 51,906</u>

Maturities of long-term debt and obligations under capital leases at December 27, 2011 are as follows:

2012	\$ 304
2013	338
2014	273
2015	283
2016	60,157
Thereafter	550
	<u>\$ 61,905</u>

The weighted average interest rate for installment loans outstanding at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010 was 10.57% and 10.58%, respectively. The debt is secured by certain land and buildings and is subject to certain prepayment penalties.

On August 12, 2011, we entered into a new \$200.0 million five-year revolving credit facility with a syndicate of commercial lenders led by JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., PNC Bank, N.A., and Wells Fargo, N.A. This facility replaces our previous five-year revolving credit facility. The new facility expires

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)****(3) Long-term Debt and Obligations Under Capital Leases (Continued)**

on August 12, 2016. The terms of the facility require us to pay interest on outstanding borrowings at the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") plus a margin of 0.875% to 1.875%, depending on our leverage ratio, or the Alternate Base Rate, which is the higher of the issuing bank's prime lending rate or the Federal Funds rate plus 0.50%. We are also required to pay a commitment fee of 0.150% to 0.350% per year on any unused portion of the facility, depending on our leverage ratio. The weighted-average interest rate for the revolver at both December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010 was 3.20% and 3.59%, respectively, including interest rate swaps. At December 27, 2011, we had \$60.0 million outstanding under the credit facility and \$136.2 million of availability, net of \$3.8 million of outstanding letters of credit.

The lenders' obligation to extend credit under the facility depends on us maintaining certain financial covenants, including a minimum consolidated fixed charge coverage ratio of 2.00 to 1.00 and a maximum consolidated leverage ratio of 3.00 to 1.00. The credit facility permits us to incur additional secured or unsecured indebtedness outside the facility, except for the incurrence of secured indebtedness that in the aggregate exceeds 20% of our consolidated tangible net worth or circumstances where the incurrence of secured or unsecured indebtedness would prevent us from complying with our financial covenants. We were in compliance with all covenants as of December 27, 2011.

On October 22, 2008, we entered into an interest rate swap, starting on November 7, 2008, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under our revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 3.83% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the 1-month LIBOR rate for a term ending on November 7, 2015, effectively resulting in a fixed rate LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount. Changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap will be reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income.

On January 7, 2009, we entered into an interest rate swap, starting on February 7, 2009, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under our revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 2.34% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the 1-month LIBOR rate for a term ending on January 7, 2016, effectively resulting in a fixed rate LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount. Changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap will be reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(4) Property and Equipment, Net

Property and equipment were as follows:

	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010
Land and improvements	\$ 97,819	\$ 94,046
Buildings and leasehold improvements	375,756	346,792
Equipment and smallwares	176,261	156,017
Furniture and fixtures	55,196	49,840
Construction in progress	19,094	4,889
Liquor licenses	5,851	5,450
	729,977	657,034
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(232,760)	(198,051)
	<u>\$ 497,217</u>	<u>\$ 458,983</u>

The amount of interest capitalized in connection with restaurant construction was approximately \$0.3 million, \$0.1 million and \$0.1 million for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009. In 2011, as a result of our annual impairment analysis, we determined that property and equipment related one restaurant were impaired as discussed further in note 14. In 2010, no impairment was recorded as a result of our annual impairment analysis.

(5) Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill and intangible assets are as follows:

	Goodwill	Intangible Assets
Balance as of December 29, 2009	\$ 113,465	\$ 11,194
Additions	—	—
Amortization expense	—	(1,076)
Disposals and other, net	—	—
Impairment	(1,680)	—
Balance as of December 28, 2010	111,785	10,118
Additions	—	—
Amortization expense	—	(1,076)
Disposals and other, net	—	—
Impairment	(839)	—
Balance as of December 27, 2011	<u>\$ 110,946</u>	<u>\$ 9,042</u>

Intangible assets consist of reacquired franchise rights. The gross carrying amount and accumulated amortization of the intangible assets at December 27, 2011 were \$14.0 million and \$5.0 million, respectively. We amortize reacquired franchise rights on a straight-line basis over the remaining term of the franchise operating agreements, which varies by restaurant. The weighted average amortization period of reacquired franchise rights is approximately 14 years. Amortization expense for each of the next five years is expected to be \$1.1 million. In 2011 and 2010, as a result of our goodwill and/or

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(5) Goodwill and Intangible Assets (Continued)

long-lived assets impairment analysis, we determined that goodwill related to certain restaurants was impaired as discussed further in note 14.

(6) Leases

The following is a schedule of future minimum lease payments required for capital leases and operating leases that have initial or remaining noncancelable terms in excess of one year as of December 27, 2011:

	Capital Leases	Operating Leases
2012	\$ 117	\$ 22,999
2013	117	22,721
2014	20	22,127
2015	—	19,853
2016	—	18,336
Thereafter	—	93,502
Total	254	\$ 199,538
Less amount representing interest of 10.9%	28	
Present value of minimum capital lease payments	226	
Less current maturities of obligations under capital leases	98	
Obligations under capital leases, excluding current maturities	<u>\$ 128</u>	

Capitalized lease assets, primarily building, with a cost of approximately \$0.8 million and \$0.9 million at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, respectively, are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the applicable lease terms and interest expense is recognized on the outstanding obligations. The total accumulated amortization of property held under capital leases totaled \$0.4 million at both December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010.

Rent expense for operating leases consisted of the following:

	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	December 29, 2009
Minimum rent—occupancy	\$ 22,532	\$ 20,843	\$ 19,574
Contingent rent	618	518	444
Rent expense, occupancy	23,150	21,361	20,018
Minimum rent—equipment and other	3,013	2,613	2,414
Rent expense	<u>\$ 26,163</u>	<u>\$ 23,974</u>	<u>\$ 22,432</u>

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(7) Income Taxes

Components of our income tax (benefit) and provision for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009 are as follows:

	Year Ended December 27, 2011	Year Ended December 28, 2010	Year Ended December 29, 2009
Current:			
Federal	\$ 20,546	\$ 20,561	\$ 18,680
State	6,149	5,323	4,937
Total current	26,695	25,884	23,617
Deferred:			
Federal	289	1,788	231
State	(219)	11	(357)
Total deferred	70	1,799	(126)
Income tax provision	<u>\$ 26,765</u>	<u>\$ 27,683</u>	<u>\$ 23,491</u>

A reconciliation of the statutory federal income tax rate to our effective tax rate for December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009 is as follows:

	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	December 29, 2009
Tax at statutory federal rate	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
State and local tax, net of federal benefit	3.7	3.7	3.7
FICA tip tax credit	(6.0)	(5.4)	(6.2)
HIRE retention credit	(2.1)	—	—
Work opportunity tax credit	(1.2)	(2.1)	(1.4)
Incentive stock options	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.4
Nondeductible officer compensation	0.5	0.9	1.1
Other	(0.2)	0.2	0.5
Total	<u>29.5%</u>	<u>32.2%</u>	<u>33.1%</u>

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(7) Income Taxes (Continued)

Components of deferred tax assets (liabilities) are as follows:

	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010
Deferred tax assets:		
Insurance reserves	\$ 3,252	\$ 2,641
Other reserves	473	343
Deferred rent	5,831	4,757
Share-based compensation	5,460	3,632
Unredeemed gift cards	2,812	2,627
Other assets and liabilities	4,791	4,537
Total deferred tax asset	22,619	18,537
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Depreciation and amortization	(27,422)	(24,373)
Other assets and liabilities	(545)	(240)
Total deferred tax liability	(27,967)	(24,613)
Net deferred tax liability	\$ (5,348)	\$ (6,076)
Current deferred tax asset	\$ 3,367	\$ 2,368
Noncurrent deferred tax liability	(8,715)	(8,444)
Net deferred tax liability	\$ (5,348)	\$ (6,076)

We have not provided any valuation allowance as we believe the realization of our deferred tax assets is more likely than not.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending liability for unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

	Uncertain tax positions impacting tax rate	Uncertain tax positions not impacting tax rate	Total uncertain tax positions
Balance at December 29, 2009	\$ 206	\$ 198	\$ 404
Additions to tax positions related to prior years	—	—	—
Reductions due to statute expiration	(82)	(198)	(280)
Balance at December 28, 2010	124	—	124
Additions to tax positions related to prior years	91	—	91
Reductions due to statute expiration	(91)	—	(91)
Balance at December 27, 2011	\$ 124	\$ —	\$ 124

We, consistent with our existing policy, recognize both interest and penalties on unrecognized tax benefits as part of income tax expense. As of December 27, 2011, the total amount of accrued penalties and interest related to uncertain tax provisions was immaterial. As of December 28, 2010, the total amount of accrued penalties and interest related to uncertain tax provisions was \$0.1 million. Included

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(7) Income Taxes (Continued)

in the balance of total unrecognized tax benefits at December 27, 2011 are no potential benefits, which, if recognized, would affect the effective tax rate.

All entities for which unrecognized tax benefits exist as of December 27, 2011 possess a December tax year-end. As a result, as of December 27, 2011, the tax years ended December 30, 2008, December 29, 2009 and December 28, 2010 remain subject to examination by all tax jurisdictions. As of December 27, 2011, no audits were in process by a tax jurisdiction that, if completed during the next twelve months, would be expected to result in a material change to our unrecognized tax benefits. Additionally, as of December 27, 2011, no event occurred that is likely to result in a significant increase or decrease in the unrecognized tax benefits through December 26, 2012.

(8) Preferred Stock

Our Board of Directors is authorized, without further vote or action by the holders of common stock, to issue from time to time up to an aggregate of 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series. Each series of preferred stock will have the number of shares, designations, preferences, voting powers, qualifications and special or relative rights or privileges as shall be determined by the Board of Directors, which may include, but are not limited to, dividend rights, voting rights, redemption and sinking fund provisions, liquidation preferences, conversion rights and preemptive rights. There were no shares of preferred stock outstanding at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010.

(9) Stockholders' Equity

On February 14, 2008, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program under which it authorized us to repurchase up to \$25.0 million of our common stock. On July 8, 2008, our Board of Directors approved a \$50.0 million increase in our stock repurchase program. Our total stock repurchase authorization increased to \$75.0 million. On November 19, 2009, the Board of Directors extended the expiration date on the stock repurchase program to February 14, 2011.

On February 17, 2011, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program under which it authorized us to repurchase up to \$50.0 million of our common stock. On August 18, 2011, our Board of Directors approved a \$50.0 million increase in our stock repurchase program. On February 16, 2012, our Board of Directors cancelled this stock repurchase program, which had to expiration date and \$40.9 million remaining as of December 27, 2011 and approved a stock repurchase program under which it authorized us to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of our common stock. Any repurchases will be made through open market transactions. The timing and the amount of any repurchases will be determined by management under parameters established by our Board of Directors, based on its evaluation of our stock price, market conditions and other corporate considerations. See note 18.

For the years ended December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock; however, for the year ended December 27, 2011, we paid approximately \$59.1 million to repurchase 3,972,100 shares of our common stock.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(10) Earnings Per Share

The share and net income per share data for all periods presented are based on the historical weighted-average shares outstanding. The diluted earnings per share calculations show the effect of the weighted-average stock options and restricted stock awards outstanding from our equity incentive plan as discussed in note 12. For the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, options to purchase 521,512, 1,798,911 and 2,861,892 shares, respectively, were outstanding but not included in the computation of diluted net income per share because their inclusion would have had an anti-dilutive effect. For the year ended December 27, 2011, an immaterial number of shares of nonvested stock were outstanding but not included in the computation of diluted net income per share because their inclusion would have had an anti-dilutive effect. For the years ended December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, 16,546 and 18,475 shares of nonvested stock, respectively, were outstanding but not included in the computation of diluted net income per share because their inclusion would have had an anti-dilutive effect.

The following table sets forth the calculation of weighted average shares outstanding (in thousands) as presented in the accompanying consolidated statements of income:

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	December 29, 2009
Net income attributable to Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries	\$ 63,964	\$ 58,289	\$ 47,479
Basic EPS:			
Weighted-average common shares outstanding	70,829	71,432	69,967
Basic EPS	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.68
Diluted EPS:			
Weighted-average common shares outstanding	70,829	71,432	69,967
Dilutive effect of stock options and nonvested stock	1,449	1,497	1,331
Shares—diluted	72,278	72,929	71,298
Diluted EPS	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.67

(11) Commitments and Contingencies

The estimated cost of completing capital project commitments at December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010 was approximately \$58.6 million and \$52.8 million, respectively.

We entered into real estate lease agreements for franchise restaurants located in Everett, MA, Longmont, CO, Montgomeryville, PA, Fargo, ND and Logan, UT before granting franchise rights for those restaurants. We have subsequently assigned the leases to the franchisees, but remain contingently liable if a franchisee defaults, under the terms of the lease. The Longmont lease was assigned in October 2003 and expires in May 2014, the Everett lease was assigned in September 2002 and expires

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(11) Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

in February 2018, the Montgomeryville lease was assigned in October 2004 and expires in June 2021, the Fargo lease was assigned in February 2006 and expires in July 2016 and the Logan lease was assigned in January 2009 and expires in August 2019. As the fair value of the guarantees is not considered significant, no liability has been recorded. As discussed in note 17, the Everett, MA, Longmont, CO, and Fargo, ND restaurants are owned, in whole or part, by certain officers, directors and 5% stockholders of the Company.

During the year ended December 27, 2011, we bought most of our beef from three suppliers. Although there are a limited number of beef suppliers, we believe that other suppliers could provide similar product on comparable terms. A change in suppliers, however, could cause supply shortages and a possible loss of sales, which would affect operating results adversely. We have no material minimum purchase commitments with our vendors that extend beyond a year.

On September 30, 2011, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") filed a lawsuit titled *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission v. Texas Roadhouse, Inc., Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC, Texas Roadhouse Management Corp.* in the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, Civil Action Number 1:11-cv-11732. The complaint alleges that we engaged in a pattern and practice of age discrimination in hiring for certain restaurant positions in violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act. The complaint alleges that applicants over the age of 40 were denied employment in our restaurants in bartender, host, server and server assistant positions due to their age. The EEOC is seeking injunctive relief, remedial actions, payment of damages to the applicants and costs. We believe we have meritorious defenses to the claims made by the EEOC, and we intend to vigorously defend against them. Based on the preliminary status of this matter, we cannot estimate the possible amount or range of loss, if any, associated with this matter.

On January 19, 2011, a civil case styled as a class action complaint titled *Jenna Crenshaw, Andrew Brickley, et al, and all others similarly situated v. Texas Roadhouse, Inc., Texas Roadhouse Holdings, LLC, Texas Roadhouse of Everett, LLC and Texas Roadhouse Management Corp., d/b/a Texas Roadhouse* ("Crenshaw") was filed. The complaint was subsequently amended to add additional plaintiffs. The complaint is pending in the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, Civil Action Number 1:11-cv-10549. The complaint alleges a failure to comply with Massachusetts labor laws, specifically that we improperly shared pooled tips with ineligible employees in all of our restaurants in Massachusetts. Currently, we operate nine restaurants in the state. We have filed an answer denying all material allegations and are in the early phases of discovery. Additionally, we have agreed to participate in mediation.

We believe that we have meritorious defenses to the claims made in the Crenshaw case, and we intend to vigorously defend against them, including plaintiffs' efforts to certify a class action. Based on the preliminary status of this matter, specifically that no class has been certified, we cannot estimate the possible amount or range of loss, if any, associated with this matter. However, if the court imposes statutory penalties, including restitution of the difference between the tip credit wage and minimum wage, restitution of tips, treble damages and attorneys' fees, then the case could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operation or cash flows.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(11) Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

We are involved in various other claims and legal actions arising in the normal course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these matters will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

(12) Share-based Compensation

In May 2004, we adopted an equity incentive plan (the "Plan") for eligible participants. This Plan amended and restated the 1997 Texas Roadhouse Management Corp. Stock Option Plan. The Plan provides for granting of incentive and non-qualified stock options to purchase shares of common stock, stock bonus awards (restricted stock unit awards ("RSUs")) and restricted stock awards. The Plan provides for the issuance of 16,000,000 shares of common stock plus an annual increase to be added on the first day of the year for a period of ten years, commencing on January 1, 2005 and ending on (and including) January 1, 2014, equal to the lesser of one percent of the shares of common stock outstanding or 1,000,000 shares of common stock. Options are exercisable at various periods ranging from one to ten years from the date of grant. Beginning in 2008, we changed the method by which we provide share-based compensation to our employees by eliminating stock option grants and, instead, granting RSUs as a form of share-based compensation. An RSU is the conditional right to receive one share of common stock upon satisfaction of the service-based vesting requirement.

The following table summarizes the share-based compensation recorded in the accompanying consolidated statements of income:

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	December 29, 2009
Labor expense	\$ 3,905	\$ 3,364	\$ 2,836
General and administrative expense	6,620	4,322	4,657
Total share-based compensation expense	<u>\$ 10,525</u>	<u>\$ 7,686</u>	<u>\$ 7,493</u>

A summary of share-based compensation activity by type of grant as of December 27, 2011 and changes during the period then ended is presented below.

Summary Details for Plan Share Options

	Shares	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at December 28, 2010	3,996,512	\$ 11.87		
Granted	—	—		
Forfeited	(32,466)	15.36		
Exercised	(477,404)	10.53		
Outstanding at December 27, 2011	<u>3,486,642</u>	<u>\$ 12.02</u>	<u>3.60</u>	<u>\$ 12,224</u>
Exercisable at December 27, 2011	<u>3,460,585</u>	<u>\$ 12.01</u>	<u>3.59</u>	<u>\$ 12,155</u>

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(12) Share-based Compensation (Continued)

No stock options were granted during the fiscal years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009.

The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009 was \$3.0 million, \$9.6 million and \$5.1 million, respectively. As of December 27, 2011, with respect to unvested stock options, there was an immaterial amount of unrecognized compensation cost that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of less than one year. The total grant date fair value of stock options vested during the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009 was \$0.7 million, \$1.3 million and \$1.2 million, respectively.

For the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, cash received from options exercised was \$5.0 million, \$11.0 million and \$2.8 million, respectively. The excess tax benefit realized from tax deductions associated with options exercised for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009 was \$2.3 million, \$3.2 million and \$1.8 million, respectively.

Summary Details for RSUs

	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at December 28, 2010	1,205,410	\$ 11.71
Granted	792,612	16.14
Forfeited	(138,150)	16.05
Vested	(673,392)	12.23
Outstanding at December 27, 2011	<u>1,186,480</u>	<u>\$ 13.71</u>

As of December 27, 2011, with respect to unvested RSUs, there was \$7.3 million of unrecognized compensation cost that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.4 years. The vesting terms of the RSUs range from approximately 1.0 to 5.0 years. The total grant date fair value of RSUs vested during the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009 was \$9.1 million, \$6.5 million and \$4.9 million, respectively.

(13) Fair Value Measurement

ASC 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures ("ASC 820"), establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. ASC 820 establishes a three-level hierarchy, which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(13) Fair Value Measurement (Continued)

the use of unobservable inputs in measuring fair value. The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability on the measurement date.

- Level 1 Inputs based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets.
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the assets, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 Inputs that are unobservable for the asset.

There were no transfers among levels within the fair value hierarchy during the year ended December 27, 2011.

The following table presents the fair values for our financial assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis:

	Fair Value Measurements		
	Level	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010
Interest rate swaps	2	\$ (4,247)	\$ (2,178)
Deferred compensation plan— assets	1	6,748	5,475
Deferred compensation plan— liabilities	1	(6,714)	(5,469)
Total		<u>\$ (4,213)</u>	<u>\$ (2,172)</u>

The fair value of our interest rate swaps were determined based on the present value of expected future cash flows considering the risks involved, including nonperformance risk, and using discount rates appropriate for the duration. See note 15 for discussion of our interest rate swaps.

The Second Amended and Restated Deferred Compensation Plan of Texas Roadhouse Management Corp., as amended, (the "Deferred Compensation Plan") is a nonqualified deferred compensation plan which allows highly compensated employees to defer receipt of a portion of their compensation and contribute such amounts to one or more investment funds held in a rabbi trust. We report the accounts of the rabbi trust in our consolidated financial statements. These investments are considered trading securities and are reported at fair value based on third-party broker statements. The realized and unrealized holding gains and losses related to these investments, as well as the offsetting compensation expense, are recorded in general and administrative expense on the consolidated statements of income.

The following table presents the fair values for our financial assets and liabilities measured on a nonrecurring basis:

	Fair Value Measurements			Total losses
	Level	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	
Long-lived assets held for sale	2	\$ 1,398	\$ 1,598	\$ 200
Long-lived assets held for use	2	1,017	1,117	—
Goodwill	3	992	1,830	838
Total		<u>\$ 3,407</u>	<u>\$ 4,545</u>	<u>\$ 1,038</u>

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(13) Fair Value Measurement (Continued)

Long-lived assets held for sale include land and building and are valued using Level 2 inputs, primarily independent third party appraisal. These assets are included in Property and equipment in our consolidated balance sheets as we do not expect to sell these assets in the next 12 months. Cost to market and/or sell the assets are factored into the estimates of fair value. During the 52 weeks ended December 27, 2011, long-lived assets held for sale with a carrying amount of \$1.6 million were written down to their fair value of \$1.4 million, resulting in a loss of \$0.2 million, which is included in Impairment and closures in our consolidated statements of income.

Long-lived assets held for use include building, equipment and furniture and fixtures and are valued using Level 2 inputs, primarily an independent third party appraisal. These assets are included in Property and equipment in our consolidated balance sheets. During the 52 weeks ended December 29, 2009, long-lived assets held for use with a carrying amount of \$2.5 million were written down to their fair value of \$1.2 million, resulting in a loss of \$1.3 million, which is included in Impairment and closures in our consolidated statements of income. Depreciation expense of \$0.1 million was recorded on these assets during the 52 weeks ended December 27, 2011.

As of December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, goodwill in the table above relates to two and three underperforming restaurants, respectively, in which the carrying value of the associated goodwill was reduced to fair value, based on their historical results and anticipated future trends of operations. These charges are included in Impairment and closures in our consolidated statements of income. For further discussion of impairment charges, see note 14.

At December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, the fair value of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and accounts payable approximated their carrying value based on the short-term nature of these instruments. The fair value of our long-term debt is estimated based on the current rates offered to us for instruments of similar terms and maturities. The carrying amounts and related estimated fair values for our debt is as follows:

	December 27, 2011		December 28, 2010	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Installment loans	\$ 1,679	\$ 2,044	\$ 1,865	\$ 2,324
Revolver	60,000	60,000	50,000	50,000

(14) Impairment and Closure Costs

During 2011, 2010 and 2009, we recorded impairment charges of \$1.2 million, \$2.0 million and \$3.0 million, respectively, related to goodwill and long-lived assets. These charges were measured and recognized following current accounting guidance which requires that the carrying value of these assets be tested for impairment whenever circumstances indicate that impairment may exist, or at least annually in the case of goodwill. Refer to note 2 for further discussion of the methodology used by us to test for long-lived asset and goodwill impairment.

Impairment charges in 2011 included \$0.8 million associated with the impairment of goodwill related to one restaurant and the \$0.4 million related to the write-down of land, building, equipment and furniture and fixtures and ongoing closure costs associated with one restaurant closed in 2008. The

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(14) Impairment and Closure Costs (Continued)

goodwill impairment charges in 2011 resulted from our annual testing which relies, in part, on the historical trends and anticipated future trends of operations of individual restaurants.

Impairment charges in 2010 included \$1.7 million associated with the impairment of goodwill related to four restaurants and \$0.2 million related to the write-down of equipment and ongoing closure costs associated with one restaurant, which was closed in 2010. The remaining \$0.1 million in expenses were ongoing closure costs associated with one restaurant closed in 2008.

Impairment charges in 2009 included \$1.9 million related to four underperforming restaurants in which the carrying value of the associated goodwill and reacquired franchise rights were reduced to fair value, based on their historical results and anticipated future trends of operations. Of the \$1.9 million impairment charge, \$0.6 million was not deductible for tax purposes. For further discussion of goodwill and intangible assets, refer to note 6.

Impairment charges in 2009 also included \$1.3 million related to one underperforming restaurant in which its carrying value was reduced to its estimated fair value, based on its historical results and anticipated future trends of operations. The impairment included building and equipment. In addition, in 2009, we recorded a gain of \$0.6 million related to the sale of one restaurant which was relocated, a charge of \$0.5 million in conjunction with the closure of one restaurant, and recognized a credit of \$0.1 million related to the settlement of a lease reserve associated with one restaurant which was closed in 2008.

(15) Derivative and Hedging Activities

We enter into derivative instruments for risk management purposes only, including derivatives designated as hedging instruments under FASB ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging ("ASC 815"). We use interest rate-related derivative instruments to manage our exposure to fluctuations of interest rates. By using these instruments, we expose ourselves, from time to time, to credit risk and market risk. Credit risk is the failure of the counterparty to perform under the terms of the derivative contract. When the fair value of a derivative contract is positive, the counterparty owes us, which creates credit risk for us. We minimize the credit risk by entering into transactions with high-quality counterparties whose credit rating is evaluated on a quarterly basis. Our counterparty in the interest rate swaps is JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. Market risk is the adverse effect on the value of a financial instrument that results from a change in interest rates, commodity prices, or the market price of our common stock. We minimize market risk by establishing and monitoring parameters that limit the types and degree of market risk that may be taken.

Interest Rate Swaps

On October 22, 2008, we entered into an interest rate swap, starting on November 7, 2008, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under its revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 3.83% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(15) Derivative and Hedging Activities (Continued)

1-month LIBOR rate for a term ending on November 7, 2015, effectively resulting in a fixed rate LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount.

On January 7, 2009, we entered into an interest rate swap, starting on February 7, 2009, with a notional amount of \$25.0 million to hedge a portion of the cash flows of our variable rate credit facility. We have designated the interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge of our exposure to variability in future cash flows attributable to interest payments on a \$25.0 million tranche of floating rate debt borrowed under our revolving credit facility. Under the terms of the swap, we pay a fixed rate of 2.34% on the \$25.0 million notional amount and receive payments from the counterparty based on the 1-month LIBOR rate for a term ending on January 7, 2016, effectively resulting in a fixed rate LIBOR component of the \$25.0 million notional amount.

We entered into the above interest rate swaps with the objective of eliminating the variability of our interest expense that arises because of changes in the variable interest rate for the designated interest payments. Changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap will be reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income. We will reclassify any gain or loss from accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax, on our consolidated balance sheet to interest expense on our consolidated statement of income when the interest rate swap expires or at the time we choose to terminate the swap. See note 13 for fair value discussion of these interest rate swaps.

The following table summarizes the fair value and presentation in the consolidated balance sheets for derivatives designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815:

	Balance Sheet Location	Derivative Assets		Derivative Liabilities	
		December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010	December 27, 2011	December 28, 2010
Derivative Contracts Designated as Hedging Instruments under ASC 815	(1)				
Interest rate swaps		\$ —	\$ —	\$ 4,247	\$ 2,178
Total Derivative Contracts		<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 4,247</u>	<u>\$ 2,178</u>

- (1) Derivative assets and liabilities are included in fair value of derivative financial instruments on the consolidated balance sheets.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(15) Derivative and Hedging Activities (Continued)

The following table summarizes the effect of derivative instruments on the consolidated statements of income for the 52 weeks ended December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010:

	Amount of Loss Recognized in AOCI (effective portion)		Location of (Loss) Gain Reclassified from AOCI Income	Amount of Gain Reclassified from AOCI to Income (effective portion)		Location of (Loss) Gain Recognized in Income (ineffective portion)	Amount of (Loss) Gain Recognized in Income (ineffective portion)	
	2011	2010		2011	2010		2011	2010
Interest rate swaps	\$ (1,271)	\$ (1,357)	—	\$ 118	\$ 136	—	\$ —	\$ —

(16) Related Party Transactions

The Longview, Texas restaurant, which was acquired by us in connection with the completion of our initial public offering, leases the land and restaurant building from an entity controlled by Steven L. Ortiz, our Chief Operating Officer. The lease term is for 15 years and will terminate in November 2014. The lease can be renewed for two additional terms of five years each. Rent is approximately \$19,000 per month. The lease can be terminated if the tenant fails to pay the rent on a timely basis, fails to maintain the insurance specified in the lease, fails to maintain the building or property or becomes insolvent. Total rent payments were approximately \$224,000 for both 2011 and 2010.

The Bossier City, Louisiana restaurant, of which Steven L. Ortiz beneficially owns 66.0% and we own 5.0%, leases the land and building from an entity owned by Mr. Ortiz. The lease term is 15 years and will terminate on March 31, 2020. Rent is approximately \$16,600 per month and escalates 10% each five years during the term. The next rent escalation is in the second quarter of 2015. The lease can be terminated if the tenant fails to pay rent on a timely basis, fails to maintain insurance, abandons the property or becomes insolvent. Total rent payments were approximately \$199,000 and \$193,000 for 2011 and 2010, respectively.

We have 15 license and franchise restaurants owned in whole or part by certain officers, directors and stockholders of the Company at December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009. These entities paid us fees of \$2.2 million, \$2.1 million and \$2.1 million for the years ended December 27, 2011, December 28, 2010 and December 29, 2009, respectively. As discussed in note 11, we are contingently liable on leases which are related to three of these restaurants.

On August 17, 2011, we entered into an agreement with G.J. Hart, our former President and Chief Executive Officer whereby Mr. Hart will provide consulting services to us from August 17, 2011 through January 2, 2012. In consideration of the services to be performed by Mr. Hart, our Board of Directors accelerated the vesting of a grant of 60,000 restricted stock units from January 7, 2012 to January 2, 2012. The agreement also provides for partial payment of health insurance premiums through December 31, 2011.

Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Tabular amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

(17) Selected Quarterly Financial Data (unaudited)

	2011				
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total
Revenue	\$ 283,785	\$ 279,572	\$ 269,253	\$ 276,616	\$ 1,109,226
Total costs and expenses	\$ 253,576	\$ 255,824	\$ 246,181	\$ 258,406	\$ 1,013,987
Income from operations	\$ 30,209	\$ 23,748	\$ 23,072	\$ 18,210	\$ 95,239
Net income attributable to Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries	\$ 19,793	\$ 16,076	\$ 15,798	\$ 12,297	\$ 63,964
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.90
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.88
Cash dividends declared per share	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.32

	2010				
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total
Revenue	\$ 259,624	\$ 255,162	\$ 245,613	\$ 244,594	\$ 1,004,993
Total costs and expenses	\$ 229,518	\$ 231,833	\$ 224,165	\$ 228,860	\$ 914,376
Income from operations	\$ 30,106	\$ 23,329	\$ 21,448	\$ 15,734	\$ 90,617
Net income attributable to Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries	\$ 19,241	\$ 15,036	\$ 13,952	\$ 10,060	\$ 58,289
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.82
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.80
Cash dividends declared per share	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —

In the fourth quarter of 2011, we recorded a charge of \$0.8 million (\$0.5 million after-tax) associated with the impairment of goodwill related to one restaurant which the carrying value was reduced to fair value.

In the fourth quarter of 2010, we recorded a charge of \$1.7 million (\$1.1 million after-tax) associated with the impairment of goodwill related to four restaurants in which the carrying value was reduced to fair value.

See note 14 for further discussion of impairment and closure costs.

(18) Subsequent Events

On February 16, 2012, our Board of Directors authorized the payment of a cash dividend of \$0.09 per share of common stock. This payment will be distributed on March 30, 2012, to shareholders of record at the close of business on March 14, 2012.

Also on February 16, 2012, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program under which it authorized us to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of our common stock. Any repurchases will be made through open market transactions. The timing and the amount of any repurchases will be determined by management under parameters established by our Board of Directors, based on its evaluation of our stock price, market conditions and other corporate considerations. Our Board of Directors cancelled the previous stock repurchase program, which had no expiration date and \$40.9 million remaining as of December 27, 2011.

**Schedule of the Owners of Company-Managed Texas Roadhouse Restaurants and the
Interests Held by Directors, Executive Officers and 5% Stockholders Who Are Parties to
Limited Partnership Agreements and Operating Agreements**

As of December 27, 2011

Entity Name	Restaurant Location	Percentage of Holdings' Interest	Actual Management Fee Charged	Percentage Owned by Executive Officers, Directors & 5% Stockholders
Texas Roadhouse of Billings, LLC	Billings, MT	5%	0.5%	57%
Roadhouse of Bossier City, LLC	Bossier City, LA	5%	0.5%	65%
Texas Roadhouse of Brownsville, Ltd.	Brownsville, TX	5.09%	0.5%	91.84%
Texas Roadhouse of Everett, LLC	Everett, MA	5%	0.5%	50%
Roadhouse of Fargo, LLC	Fargo, ND	5.05%	0.5%	88.89%
Roadhouse of Longmont, LLC	Longmont, CO	5%	0.5%	47.5%
Roadhouse of McKinney, Ltd.	McKinney, TX	5%	0.5%	62%
Roadhouse of New Berlin, LLC	New Berlin, WI	5%	0.5%	62%
Roadhouse of Omaha, LLC	Omaha, NE	5.49%	0.5%	79.67%
Texas Roadhouse of Port Arthur, Ltd.	Port Arthur, TX	5%	0.5%	91.5%
Roadhouse of Temple, Ltd.	Temple, TX	5%	0.5%	77%
Roadhouse of Wichita, LLC	Wichita, KS	5%	0.5%	48.1%

Schedule of the Directors, Executive Officers and 5% Stockholders which have entered into License Agreements, Franchise Agreements or Preliminary Agreements for a Texas Roadhouse Restaurant

As of December 27, 2011

	<u>Name and Ownership</u>	<u>Prelim. Agt. Signed</u>	<u>Fran. or Lic. Agt. Signed</u>	<u>Franchise Fee</u>	<u>Royalty Rate</u>
BILLINGS, MT TEXAS ROADHOUSE OF BILLINGS, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	W. Kent Taylor (55.0%) Scott M. Colosi (2.0%)	3/1/2002	11/3/2003	\$ 0	3.5%
BOSSIER CITY, LA ROADHOUSE OF BOSSIER CITY, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	Steven L. Ortiz (66.0%)	3/19/2004	12/1/2004	\$ 0	3.5%
BROWNSVILLE, TX TEXAS ROADHOUSE OF BROWNSVILLE, LTD. 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE, SUITE 200 LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	G.J. Hart (61.23%) Steven L. Ortiz (30.61%)	5/14/2002	2/4/2003	\$ 0	3.5%
EVERETT, MA TEXAS ROADHOUSE OF EVERETT, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	W. Kent Taylor (59.0%)	2/15/2002	11/21/2002	\$ 0	3.5%
FARGO, ND (1) ROADHOUSE OF FARGO, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	G.J. Hart (83.84%) Scott M. Colosi (5.05%)	1/30/2006	8/25/2006	\$ 0	3.5%
FARMINGTON, NM (2) ROADHOUSE OF FARMINGTON, NM, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	W. Kent Taylor (95.0%)	3/19/2004		\$ 0	3.5%
LEXINGTON, KY (3) MAN O'WAR RESTAURANTS, INC. 300 WEST VINE, SUITE 2200 LEXINGTON, KY 40507	W. Kent Taylor (10.0%)	N/A	9/26/1994	\$ 0	2.0%
LONGMONT, CO ROADHOUSE OF LONGMONT, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	Steven L. Ortiz (47.5%)	12/19/2003	5/3/2004	\$ 0	3.5%
MCKINNEY, TX ROADHOUSE OF MCKINNEY, LTD. 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	G.J. Hart (30.0%) Steven L. Ortiz (30.0%) Scott M. Colosi (2.0%)	3/16/2004	9/8/2004	\$ 0	3.5%
MELBOURNE, FL(4) GREEN BROTHERS DINING, INC. 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	W. Kent Taylor (34.0%)	N/A	UNKNOWN	\$ 0	0%

MUNCIE, IN (5) HOOSIER ROADHOUSE, LLC 2131 MELODY LANE ANDERSON, IN 46012	W. Kent Taylor (11.48%)	N/A	5/29/1996	\$	0	(6)
NEW BERLIN, WI ROADHOUSE OF NEW BERLIN, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	G.J. Hart (30.0%) Steven L. Ortiz (30.0%) Scott M. Colosi (2.0%)	3/17/2004	9/8/2004	\$	0	3.5%
OMAHA, NE ROADHOUSE OF OMAHA, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	G.J. Hart (68.68%) Scott M. Colosi (10.99)%	3/19/2004	3/8/2005	\$	0	3.5%
PORT ARTHUR, TX TEXAS ROADHOUSE OF PORT ARTHUR, LTD. 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	W. Kent Taylor (30.0%) G.J. Hart (30.0%) Steven L. Ortiz (30.5%) Scott M. Colosi (3.0%)	12/15/2003	12/15/2003	\$	0	3.5%



TEMPLE, TX ROADHOUSE OF TEMPLE, LTD. 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	Steven L. Ortiz (78.0%)	3/19/2004	3/11/2005	\$	0	3.5%
WICHITA, KS ROADHOUSE OF WICHITA, LLC 6040 DUTCHMANS LANE LOUISVILLE, KY 40205	W. Kent Taylor (48.1%) Scott M. Colosi (4.0%)	3/17/2004	12/1/2004	\$	0	3.5%

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- (1) Franchise rights under Preliminary Agreement dated 4/27/2004 with Roadhouse of Louisiana, LLC were transferred to this location.
 - (2) Franchise rights under this Preliminary Agreement are to be transferred to a location not yet identified.
 - (3) Licensed restaurant which opened in January 1995.
 - (4) Licensed restaurant which opened in September 1996. In lieu of royalties, the entity pays supervision fees.
 - (5) Licensed restaurant which opened in November 1996.
 - (6) \$50,000 per year.
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**AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
(W. Kent Taylor)**

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is entered into as of January 8, 2012 by and between TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP., a Kentucky corporation (the “Company”), and W. KENT TAYLOR, a resident of the State of Nevada (“Executive”).

RECITALS

A. The Executive is currently employed as the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. pursuant to an Employment Agreement dated January 14, 2008, as amended by that Amendment to Employment Agreement effective as of January 1, 2009 and by that Second Amendment to Employment Agreement dated February 18, 2010, (the “Existing Employment Agreement”).

B. Executive and the Company each desire to replace the Existing Employment Agreement with this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the respective agreements of the Company and Executive set forth below, the Company and Executive, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

1. *Effective Date.* The terms and conditions of Executive’s employment hereunder shall become effective January 8, 2012 (the “Effective Date”). The parties agree that the Existing Employment Agreement is superseded and replaced by this Agreement and that the Existing Employment Agreement is of no further force and effect as of the Effective Date.

2. *Employment.* Subject to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Executive’s period of employment under this Agreement shall be the period commencing on the Effective Date and ending on January 7, 2015 (the “Third Anniversary Date”), which term, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, shall be extended on the Anniversary Date and on each anniversary of that date thereafter, for a period of one year thereafter (which term together with any such extensions, if any, shall be hereinafter defined as the “Term”), unless the Executive’s employment terminates earlier in accordance with Section 9 hereof. Thereafter, if Executive continues in the employ of the Company, the employment relationship shall be at will, terminable by either Executive or the Company at any time and for any reason, with or without cause, and subject to such terms and conditions established by the Company from time to time.

3. *Position and Duties.*

(a) *Employment with the Company.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be employed as the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc., and such other titles as the Company may designate, and shall perform such duties and responsibilities as the Company shall assign to him from time to time, including duties and responsibilities relating to Texas Roadhouse, Inc.'s wholly-owned and partially owned subsidiaries and other affiliates.

(b) *Performance of Duties and Responsibilities.* Executive shall serve the Company faithfully and to the best of his ability and shall devote his full working time, attention and efforts to the business of the Company during his employment with the Company hereunder. While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall report to the Board of Directors of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Board"). Executive hereby represents and confirms that he is under no contractual or legal commitments that would prevent him from fulfilling his duties and responsibilities as set forth in this Agreement. During his employment with the Company, Executive shall not accept other employment or engage in other material business activity, except as approved in writing by the Board. Executive may participate in charitable activities and personal investment activities to a reasonable extent, and he may serve as a director of business organizations as approved by the Board, so long as such activities and directorships do not interfere with the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder.

4. *Compensation.*

(a) *Base Salary.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall pay to Executive a base salary at the rate of Five Hundred Twenty-five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$525,000.00) per fiscal year, less deductions and withholdings, which base salary shall be paid in accordance with the Company's normal payroll policies and procedures. If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's base salary may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(b) *Incentive Bonus.* Commencing with the first full fiscal quarter of the Company's 2012 fiscal year and for each full fiscal quarter thereafter that Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be eligible for an annual incentive bonus, to be paid on a quarterly basis, based upon achievement of defined goals established by the Compensation Committee of the Board and in accordance with the terms of any incentive plan of the Company in effect from time to time (the "Incentive Bonus").

(i) The level of achievement of the objectives each fiscal quarter and the amount payable as Incentive Bonus shall be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee of the Board. Any Incentive Bonus earned for a fiscal

quarter shall be paid to Executive in a single lump sum on or before the 74th day following the last day of such fiscal quarter.

(ii) Subject to the achievement of the goals established by the Compensation Committee, as determined by the Compensation Committee, in fiscal year 2012, Executive shall be eligible for an annual target incentive bonus of Five Hundred Twenty-five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$525,000.00). If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's annual target incentive bonus may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(c) *Stock Awards .*

(i) Pursuant to Section 7 of the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Equity Incentive Plan") in place on the Effective Date, on January 8, 2012 the Executive shall be granted a stock bonus award whereby the Executive has the conditional right to receive upon vesting 210,000 shares of the common stock of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Restricted Stock Units"), provided this Agreement has been fully executed by both the Executive and the Company. If it has not been fully executed by January 8, 2012, the Restricted Stock Units will be granted to the Executive on the date it is fully executed.

(ii) The Restricted Stock Units shall vest in three equal installments as follows provided the Executive continues to provide services to the Company, as provided in the Equity Incentive Plan, as follows:

January 7, 2013	70,000
January 7, 2014	70,000
January 7, 2015	70,000

(iii) In the event of a termination of Executive's Employment by the Company other than for Cause (as defined below) or in the event of termination by Executive for Good Reason (as defined below) within 12 months following a Change of Control (as defined below), or prior to a Change of Control at the direction of a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company, the consummation of which will constitute a Change of Control, and contingent upon Executive's execution of a full release of claims in the manner set forth in Section 10(h), all options or stock awards granted under any stock option and stock incentive plans of the Company that are outstanding as of the date of termination shall become immediately vested, and in the case of stock options, shall immediately become exercisable in full and shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (A) two years after termination of Executive's employment by the Company or (B) the option expiration date as set forth in the applicable option agreement.

(iv) A “Change of Control” shall mean that one of the following events has taken place at any time during the Term:

(A) The stockholders of the Company approve one of the following:

(I) Any merger or statutory plan of exchange involving the Company (“Merger”) in which the Company is not the continuing or surviving corporation or pursuant to which the Common Stock, \$0.001 par value (“Common Stock”) would be converted into cash, securities or other property, other than a Merger involving the Company in which the holders of Common Stock immediately prior to the Merger have substantially the same proportionate ownership of common stock of the surviving corporation after the Merger; or

(II) Any sale, lease, exchange, or other transfer (in one transaction or a series of related transactions) of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or the adoption of any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution;

(B) During any period of 12 months or less, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted a majority of the Board of Directors cease for any reason to constitute a majority thereof unless the nomination or election of such new directors was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then still in office who were directors at the beginning of such period;

(C) A tender or exchange offer, other than one made by:

(I) the Company, or by

(II) W. Kent Taylor or any corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity in which W. Kent Taylor (x) owns a direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more or (y) controls 50% or more of the voting power (collectively, the “Taylor Parties”)

is made for the Common Stock (or securities convertible into Common Stock) and such offer results in a portion of those securities being purchased and the offeror after the consummation of the offer is the beneficial owner (as determined pursuant to Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), directly or indirectly, of securities representing in excess of the greater of (a) at least 20 percent of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company or (b) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties; or

(D) Any person other than a Taylor Party becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing in excess of the greater of (i) 20 percent of the aggregate voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company as disclosed in a report on Schedule 13D of the Exchange Act or (ii) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties.

Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing to the contrary, no Change of Control shall be deemed to have occurred for purposes of this Agreement by virtue of any transaction which results in Executive, or a group of persons which includes Executive, acquiring, directly or indirectly, securities representing 20 percent or more of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company.

(v) A termination by Executive for "Good Reason" shall mean a termination based on:

(A) the assignment to Executive of a different title or job responsibilities that result in a substantial decrease in the level of responsibility from those in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(B) a reduction by the Company or the surviving company in Executive's base pay as in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(C) a significant reduction by the Company or the surviving company in total benefits available to Executive under cash incentive, stock incentive and other employee benefit plans after the Change of Control compared to the total package of such benefits as in effect prior to the Change of Control;

(D) the requirement by the Company or the surviving company that Executive be based more than 50 miles from where Executive's office is located immediately prior to the Change of Control, except for required travel on company business to an extent substantially consistent with the business travel obligations which Executive undertook on behalf of the Company prior to the Change of Control; or

(E) the failure by the Company to obtain from any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company ("Successor") the assent to this Agreement contemplated by Section 13(g) hereof;

which is not cured within 30 days after Executive has delivered written notice of such condition to the Employer. In each case, Executive must give the Company notice of the condition within 90 days of the initial existence of the condition, and

the separation from service must occur within a period of time not to exceed two years (or such shorter period as provided herein) following the initial existence of one or more of the conditions set forth above, or any termination will not be considered to be for Good Reason.

(d) *Benefits.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee benefit plans and programs of the Company that are available to employees generally to the extent that Executive meets the eligibility requirements for each individual plan or program. The Company provides no assurance as to the adoption or continuance of any particular employee benefit plan or program, and Executive's participation in any such plan or program shall be subject to the provisions, rules and regulations applicable thereto.

(e) *Expenses.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall reimburse Executive for all reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket business, travel and entertainment expenses incurred by him in the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder, subject to the Company's normal policies and procedures for expense verification and documentation. Any reimbursements made under this Section 4(e) will be paid on or before the last day of the Executive's taxable year following the taxable year in which the expense is incurred.

(f) RESERVED

(g) *Clawback Provisions.* Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement to the contrary, any incentive based compensation, or any other compensation, paid or payable to Executive pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement or arrangement with the Company which is subject to recovery under any law, government regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement, will be subject to such deductions and clawback (recovery) as may be required to be made pursuant to law, government regulation, order, stock exchange listing requirement (or any policy of the Company adopted pursuant to any such law, government, regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement). Executive specifically authorizes the Company to withhold from his future wages any amounts that may become due under this provision. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Executive's authorization to withhold amounts from future wages that may become due under this provision does not apply and is specifically rescinded in the event of a Change in Control. This section 4(g) shall survive the termination of this Agreement for a period of three (3) years.

5. *Affiliated Entities.* As used in this Agreement, "Company" shall include the Company and each corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity that is controlled by Texas Roadhouse, Inc., or is under common control with the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (in each case "control" meaning the direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more of all outstanding equity interests).

6. *Confidential Information; Non-Disparagement.*

(a) Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company or as authorized in writing by the Board, Executive shall not, either during Executive's employment with the Company or at any time thereafter, use, disclose or make accessible to any person any confidential information for any purpose. "Confidential Information" means information proprietary to the Company or its suppliers or prospective suppliers and not generally known (including trade secret information) about the Company's suppliers, products, services, personnel, customers, recipes, pricing, sales strategies, technology, computer software code, methods, processes, designs, research, development systems, techniques, finances, accounting, purchasing, and plans. All information disclosed to Executive or to which Executive obtains access, whether originated by Executive or by others, during the period of Executive's employment by the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term), shall be presumed to be Confidential Information if it is treated by the Company as being Confidential Information or if Executive has a reasonable basis to believe it to be Confidential Information. Executive acknowledges that the above-described knowledge and information constitutes a unique and valuable asset of the Company and represents a substantial investment of time and expense by the Company, and that any disclosure or other use of such knowledge or information other than for the sole benefit of the Company would be wrongful and would cause irreparable harm to the Company. During Executive's employment with the Company, Executive shall refrain from committing any acts that would materially reduce the value of such knowledge or information to the Company. The foregoing obligations of confidentiality shall not apply to any knowledge or information that (i) is now or subsequently becomes generally publicly known, or (ii) is required to be disclosed by law or legal process, other than as a direct or indirect result of the breach of this Agreement by Executive. Executive acknowledges that the obligations imposed by this Section 6 are in addition to, and not in place of, any obligations imposed by applicable statutory or common law.

(b) Executive shall not at any time during the Term and during the Restricted Period (as defined below), or after the Term disparage the Company, any of its affiliates and any of their respective officers and directors, and shall not, without the prior written consent of the Company, disclose any information he may have learned during employment with the Company, including, but not limited to, any personal or financial information about an officer or director or his or her family member(s).

7. *Noncompetition Covenant.*

(a) *Agreement Not to Compete.* During Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on his own behalf or on behalf of any person or entity other than the Company, including without limitation as a proprietor, principal, agent, partner, officer, director, stockholder, employee, member of any

association, consultant or otherwise, engage in any business that is directly competitive with the business of the Company, including without limitation any business that operates one or more full-service, casual dining steakhouse restaurants, within the 50 United States or any foreign country in which the Company is operating or in which the Executive knows the Company contemplates commencing operations during the Restricted Period. The provisions of this Section 7(a) shall also apply to any business which is directly competitive with any other business which the Company acquires or develops during Executive's employment with the Company.

(b) *Agreement Not to Hire.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, hire, engage or solicit or induce or attempt to induce to cease working for the Company, any person who is then an employee of the Company or who was an employee of the Company during the six (6) month period immediately preceding Executive's termination of employment with the Company.

(c) *Agreement Not to Solicit.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, request, advise, induce or attempt to induce any vendor, supplier or other business contact of the Company to cancel, curtail, cease doing business with, or otherwise adversely change its relationship with the Company.

(d) *Restricted Period.* "Restricted Period" hereunder means the period commencing on the last day of Executive's employment with the Company and ending on the date that is two years following the last day of the Term.

(i) In the event the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement, and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, the Restricted Period will begin on the last day of the Executive's employment with the Company and end on the date the last payment of the current base salary is made to the Executive pursuant to paragraph 10(c).

(e) *Acknowledgment.* Executive hereby acknowledges that the provisions of this Section 7 are reasonable and necessary to protect the legitimate interests of the Company and that any violation of this Section 7 by Executive shall cause substantial and irreparable harm to the Company to such an extent that monetary damages alone would be an inadequate remedy therefor. Therefore, in the event that Executive violates any provision of this Section 7, the Company shall be entitled to an injunction, in addition to all the other remedies it may have, restraining Executive from violating or continuing to violate such provision.

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(f) *Blue Pencil Doctrine.* If the duration of, the scope of or any business activity covered by any provision of this Section 7 is in excess of what is determined to be valid and enforceable under applicable law, such provision shall be construed to cover only that duration, scope or activity that is determined to be valid and enforceable. Executive hereby acknowledges that this Section 7 shall be given the construction that renders its provisions valid and enforceable to the maximum extent, not exceeding its express terms, possible under applicable law.

(g) *Permitted Equity Ownership.* Ownership by Executive, as a passive investment, of less than 2.5% of the outstanding shares of capital stock of any corporation listed on a national securities exchange or publicly traded in the over-the-counter market shall not constitute a breach of this Section 7.

8. *Intellectual Property.*

(a) *Disclosure and Assignment.* As of the Effective Date, Executive hereby transfers and assigns to the Company (or its designee) all right, title, and interest of Executive in and to every idea, concept, invention, and improvement (whether patented, patentable or not) conceived or reduced to practice by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company, and all copyrighted or copyrightable matter created by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company that relates to the Company's business (collectively, "Creations"). Executive shall communicate promptly and disclose to the Company, in such form as the Company may request, all information, details, and data pertaining to each Creation. Every copyrightable Creation, regardless of whether copyright protection is sought or preserved by the Company, shall be a "work made for hire" as defined in 17 U.S.C. § 101, and the Company shall own all rights in and to such matter throughout the world, without the payment of any royalty or other consideration to Executive or anyone claiming through Executive.

(b) *Trademarks.* All right, title, and interest in and to any and all trademarks, trade names, service marks, and logos adopted, used, or considered for use by the Company during Executive's employment (whether or not developed by Executive) to identify the Company's business or other goods or services (collectively, the "Marks"), together with the goodwill appurtenant thereto, and all other materials, ideas, or other property conceived, created, developed, adopted, or improved by Executive solely or jointly during Executive's employment by the Company and relating to its business shall be owned exclusively by the Company. Executive shall not have, and will not claim to have, any right, title, or interest of any kind in or to the Marks or such other property.

(c) *Documentation.* Executive shall execute and deliver to the Company such formal transfers and assignments and such other documents as the Company may request to permit the Company (or its designee) to file and prosecute such registration

applications and other documents it deems useful to protect or enforce its rights hereunder. Any idea, invention, copyrightable matter, or other property relating to

the Company's business and disclosed by Executive prior to the first anniversary of the effective date of Executive's termination of employment shall be deemed to be governed by the terms of this Section 8 unless proven by Executive to have been first conceived and made after such termination date.

(d) *Non-Applicability.* Executive is hereby notified that this Section 8 does not apply to any invention for which no equipment, supplies, facility, Confidential Information, or other trade secret information of the Company was used and which was developed entirely on Executive's own time, unless (i) the invention relates (A) directly to the business of the Company or (B) to the Company's actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development, or (ii) the invention results from any work performed by Executive for the Company.

9. *Termination of Employment.*

(a) Executive's employment with the Company shall terminate immediately upon:

- (i) Executive's receipt of written notice from the Company of the termination of his employment;
- (ii) the Company's receipt of Executive's written or oral resignation from the Company;
- (iii) Executive's Disability (as defined below); or
- (iv) Executive's death.

(b) The date upon which Executive's termination of employment with the Company occurs shall be the "Termination Date."

Provided that, for purposes of the timing of payments triggered by the Termination Date under Section 10, the Termination Date shall not be considered to have occurred until the date the Executive and the Company reasonably anticipate that (i) Executive will not perform any further services for the Company or any other entity considered a single employer with the Company under Section 414 (b) or (c) of the Internal Revenue Code (but substituting 50% for 80% in the application thereof) (the "Employer Group"), or (ii) the level of bona fide services Executive will perform for the Employer Group after that date will permanently decrease to less than 20% of the average level of bona fide services performed over the previous 36 months (or if shorter over the duration of service). For this purpose, service performed as an employee or as an independent contractor is counted, except that service as a member of the board of directors of an Employer Group entity is not counted unless termination benefits under this Employment Agreement are aggregated with benefits under any other Employer Group plan or agreement in which Executive also participates as a director. Executive will not be treated as having a termination of his employment while he is on military leave, sick leave or other bona fide

leave of absence if the leave does not exceed six months or, if longer, the period during which Executive has a reemployment right under statute or contract. If a bona fide leave of absence extends beyond six months, Executive's employment will be considered to terminate on the first day after the end of such six month period, or on the day after Executive's statutory or contractual reemployment right lapses, if later. The Company will determine when Executive's Termination Date occurs based on all relevant facts and circumstances, in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h).

10. *Payments upon Termination of Employment.*

- (a) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by reason of:
 - (i) Executive's abandonment of his employment or Executive's resignation for any reason (whether or not such resignation is set forth in writing or otherwise communicated to the Company);
 - (ii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company for Cause (as defined below); or
 - (iii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company without Cause following expiration of the Term;

the Company shall pay to Executive his then-current base salary through the Termination Date.

(b) Except in the case of a Change in Control, which is governed by Section 10(c) below, if Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by the Company pursuant to Section 9(a)(i) effective prior to the expiration of the Term for any reason other than for Cause (as defined below), then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Section 10(h) of this Agreement:

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs; and
- (iii) a crisp \$100 bill from the Board.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(ii) shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law.

(c) If Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, or if the Executive's employment is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason following a Change in Control and before the end of the Term, then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Executive's compliance with Section 10(h) of this Agreement, an amount equal to his then current base salary and incentive bonus through the end of Term of the Agreement, paid in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices, but in no event will the Company pay the Executive less than one year of his current base salary and incentive bonus. At the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(c) may be paid in a lump sum.

(d) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated effective prior to the expiration of the Term by reason of Executive's death or Disability, the Company shall pay to Executive or his beneficiary or his estate, as the case may be;

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of his then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and
- (iv) \$262,500.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(ii) shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

- (e) "Cause" hereunder shall mean:

- (i) an act or acts of dishonesty undertaken by Executive and intended to result in substantial gain or personal enrichment of Executive at the expense of the Company;
- (ii) unlawful conduct or gross misconduct that is willful and deliberate on Executive's part and that, in either event, is materially injurious to the Company;
- (iii) the conviction of Executive of a felony;
- (iv) material and deliberate failure of Executive to perform his duties and responsibilities hereunder or to satisfy his obligations as an officer or employee of the Company, which failure has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company; or
- (v) material breach of any terms and conditions of this Agreement by Executive not caused by the Company, which breach has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company.

(f) “Disability” hereunder shall mean the inability of Executive to perform on a full-time basis the duties and responsibilities of his employment with the Company by reason of his illness or other physical or mental impairment or condition, if such inability continues for an uninterrupted period of 45 days or more during any 360-day period. A period of inability shall be “uninterrupted” unless and until Executive returns to full-time work for a continuous period of at least 30 days.

(g) In the event of termination of Executive's employment, the sole obligation of the Company hereunder shall be its obligation to make the payments called for by Sections 10(a), 10(b), 10(c) or 10(d) hereof, as the case may be, and the Company shall have no other obligation to Executive or to his beneficiary or his estate, except as otherwise provided by law.

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, the Company shall not be obligated to make any payments under Section 10(b)(ii), (iii) or (iv) or 10(c) of this Agreement unless Executive has signed a full release of claims against the Company, in a form and scope to be prescribed by the Board, all applicable consideration periods and rescission periods provided by law shall have expired, and Executive is in strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement as of the dates of the payments. Executive must execute and deliver such release to the Company on the date set by the Company, which shall be no later than 60 days following Executive's Termination Date, and the

release will be delivered by the Company to the Executive at least 21 days before the deadline set for its return.

11. *Return of Property.* Upon termination of Executive's employment with the Company, Executive shall deliver promptly to the Company all records, files, manuals, books, forms, documents, letters, memoranda, data, customer lists, tables, photographs, video tapes, audio tapes, computer disks and other computer storage media, and copies thereof, that are the property of the Company, or that relate in any way to the business, products, services, personnel, customers, prospective customers, suppliers, practices, or techniques of the Company, and all other property of the Company (such as, for example, computers, pagers, credit cards, and keys), whether or not containing Confidential Information, that are in Executive's possession or under Executive's control.

12. *Remedies.* Executive acknowledges that it would be difficult to fully compensate the Company for monetary damages resulting from any breach by him of the provisions of Sections 6, 7, 8, and 11 hereof. Accordingly, in the event of any actual or threatened breach of any such provisions, the Company shall, in addition to any other remedies it may have, be entitled to injunctive and other equitable relief to enforce such provisions, and such relief may be granted without the necessity of proving actual monetary damages.

13. *Miscellaneous.*

(a) *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky without regard to conflict of law principles. Any action relating to this Agreement shall only be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the parties consent to the jurisdiction, venue and convenience of such courts.

(b) *Jurisdiction and Law.* Executive and the Company consent to jurisdiction of the courts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and/or the federal district courts, Western District of Kentucky, for the purpose of resolving all issues of law, equity, or fact, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Any action involving claims of a breach of this Agreement shall be brought in such courts. Each party consents to personal jurisdiction over such party in the state and/or federal courts of Kentucky and hereby waives any defense of lack of personal jurisdiction or *forum non conveniens*. Venue, for the purpose of all such suits, shall be in Jefferson County, Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(c) *Entire Agreement.* Except for any written stock option agreement and related agreements between Executive and the Company, this Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties relating to Executive's employment with the Company and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to such subject matter including without limitation the Prior Employment Agreement, and the parties hereto have made no agreements, representations or warranties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement that are not set forth herein. As of the Effective Date, the Prior Employment Agreement shall terminate and be of no further force or effect; provided,

however, any obligations of Executive or the Company arising under the Prior Employment Agreement prior to the Effective Date shall survive such termination.

(d) *No Violation of Other Agreements.* Executive hereby represents and agrees that neither (i) Executive's entering into this Agreement, (ii) Executive's employment with the Company, nor (iii) Executive's carrying out the provisions of this Agreement, will violate any other agreement (oral, written or other) to which Executive is a party or by which Executive is bound.

(e) *Amendments.* No amendment or modification of this Agreement shall be deemed effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

(f) *No Waiver.* No term or condition of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been waived, except by a statement in writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of the waiver is sought. Any written waiver shall not be deemed a continuing waiver unless specifically stated, shall operate only as to the specific term or condition waived and shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition for the future or as to any act other than that specifically waived.

(g) *Assignment.* This Agreement shall not be assignable, in whole or in part, by either party without the prior written consent of the other party, except that the Company may, without the consent of Executive, assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement (i) to any entity with which the Company may merge or consolidate, or (ii) to any corporation or other person or business entity to which the Company may sell or transfer all or substantially all of its assets. Upon Executive's written request, the Company will seek to have any Successor by agreement assent to the fulfillment by the Company of its obligations under this Agreement. After any assignment by the Company pursuant to this Section 13(g), the Company shall be discharged from all further liability hereunder and such assignee shall thereafter be deemed to be the "Company" for purposes of all terms and conditions of this Agreement, including this Section 13.

(h) *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and such counterparts executed and delivered, each as an original, shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

(i) *Severability.* Subject to Section 7(f) hereof, to the extent that any portion of any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable, it shall be considered deleted herefrom and the remainder of such provision and of this Agreement shall be unaffected and shall continue in full force and effect.

(j) *Survival.* The terms and conditions set forth in Sections 4(g), 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13 of this Agreement, and any other provision that continues by its terms, shall survive expiration of the Term or termination of Executive's employment for any reason.

(k) *Captions and Headings.* The captions and paragraph headings used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement or any of the provisions hereof.

(l) *Notices .* Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be sufficient if in writing and either delivered in person or sent by first class certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, if to the Company, at the Company's principal place of business, and if to Executive, at his home address most recently filed with the Company, or to such other address or addresses as either party shall have designated in writing to the other party hereto.

(m) *Six Month Delay .* Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if the Executive is a "specified employee" within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(i) (or any successor thereto) on his Termination Date, any payments hereunder that are triggered by termination of employment and which are not exempt as separation pay under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(9) or as short-term deferral pay, shall not begin to be paid until six months after his Termination Date, and at that time, the Executive will receive in one lump sum payment of all the payments that would have otherwise been paid to the Executive during the first six months following the Executive's Termination Date. The Company shall determine, consistent with any guidance issued under Code Section 409A, the portion of payments that are required to be delayed, if any.

(n) *409A Compliance .* The Executive and the Company agree and confirm that this Employment Agreement is intended by both parties to provide for compensation that is exempt from Code Section 409A as separation pay (up to the Code Section 409A limit) or as a short-term deferral, and to be compliant with Code Section 409A with respect to additional severance compensation and bonus compensation. This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, and administered in accordance with this agreed intent, provided that the Company does not promise or warrant any tax treatment of compensation hereunder. Executive is responsible for obtaining advice regarding all questions to federal, state, or local income, estate, payroll, or other tax consequences arising from participation herein. This Agreement shall not be amended or terminated in a manner that would accelerate or delay payment of severance pay or bonus pay except as permitted under Treasury Regulations under Code Section 409A.

[Remainder of this page intentionally left blank.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Executive and the Company have executed this Agreement on this 6th day of January, 2012.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP.

By: /s/ Scott M. Colosi
Scott M. Colosi
President

W. KENT TAYLOR

/s/ W. Kent Taylor

**AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
(Scott M. Colosi)**

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is entered into as of January 8, 2012 by and between TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP., a Kentucky corporation (the “Company”), and SCOTT M. COLOSI, a resident of the Commonwealth of Kentucky (“Executive”).

RECITALS

A. The Executive is currently employed as the President of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. pursuant to an Employment Agreement dated January 14, 2008, as amended by that Amendment to Employment Agreement effective as of January 1, 2009 and by that Second Amendment to Employment Agreement dated February 18, 2010, (the “Existing Employment Agreement”).

B. Executive and the Company each desire to replace the Existing Employment Agreement with this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the respective agreements of the Company and Executive set forth below, the Company and Executive, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

1. *Effective Date.* The terms and conditions of Executive’s employment hereunder shall become effective January 8, 2012 (the “Effective Date”). The parties agree that the Existing Employment Agreement is superseded and replaced by this Agreement and that the Existing Employment Agreement is of no further force and effect as of the Effective Date.

2. *Employment.* Subject to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Executive’s period of employment under this Agreement shall be the period commencing on the Effective Date and ending on January 7, 2015 (the “Third Anniversary Date”), which term, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, shall be extended on the Anniversary Date and on each anniversary of that date thereafter, for a period of one year thereafter (which term together with any such extensions, if any, shall be hereinafter defined as the “Term”), unless the Executive’s employment terminates earlier in accordance with Section 9 hereof. Thereafter, if Executive continues in the employ of the Company, the employment relationship shall be at will, terminable by either Executive or the Company at any time and for any reason, with or without cause, and subject to such terms and conditions established by the Company from time to time.

3. *Position and Duties.*

(a) *Employment with the Company.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be employed as the President of Texas

Roadhouse, Inc., and such other titles as the Company may designate, and shall perform such duties and responsibilities as the Company shall assign to him from time to time, including duties and responsibilities relating to Texas Roadhouse, Inc.'s wholly-owned and partially owned subsidiaries and other affiliates.

(b) *Performance of Duties and Responsibilities.* Executive shall serve the Company faithfully and to the best of his ability and shall devote his full working time, attention and efforts to the business of the Company during his employment with the Company hereunder. While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall report to the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer or to such other person as designated by the Board of Directors of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Board"). Executive hereby represents and confirms that he is under no contractual or legal commitments that would prevent him from fulfilling his duties and responsibilities as set forth in this Agreement. During his employment with the Company, Executive shall not accept other employment or engage in other material business activity, except as approved in writing by the Board. Executive may participate in charitable activities and personal investment activities to a reasonable extent, and he may serve as a director of business organizations as approved by the Board, so long as such activities and directorships do not interfere with the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder.

4. *Compensation.*

(a) *Base Salary.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall pay to Executive a base salary at the rate of Four Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$400,000.00) per fiscal year, less deductions and withholdings, which base salary shall be paid in accordance with the Company's normal payroll policies and procedures. If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's base salary may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(b) *Incentive Bonus.* Commencing with the first full fiscal quarter of the Company's 2012 fiscal year and for each full fiscal quarter thereafter that Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be eligible for an annual incentive bonus, to be paid on a quarterly basis, based upon achievement of defined goals established by the Compensation Committee of the Board and in accordance with the terms of any incentive plan of the Company in effect from time to time (the "Incentive Bonus").

(i) The level of achievement of the objectives each fiscal quarter and the amount payable as Incentive Bonus shall be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee of the Board. Any Incentive Bonus earned for a fiscal quarter shall be paid to Executive in a single lump sum on or before the 74th day following the last day of such fiscal quarter.

(ii) Subject to the achievement of the goals established by the Compensation Committee, as determined by the Compensation Committee, in fiscal year 2012, Executive shall be eligible for an annual target incentive bonus of Three Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$300,000.00). If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's annual target incentive bonus may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(c) *Stock Awards* .

(i) Pursuant to Section 7 of the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Equity Incentive Plan") in place on the Effective Date, on January 8, 2012 the Executive shall be granted a stock bonus award whereby the Executive has the conditional right to receive upon vesting 150,000 shares of the common stock of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Restricted Stock Units"), provided this Agreement has been fully executed by both the Executive and the Company. If it has not been fully executed by January 8, 2012, the Restricted Stock Units will be granted to the Executive on the date it is fully executed.

(ii) The Restricted Stock Units shall vest in three equal installments as follows provided the Executive continues to provide services to the Company, as provided in the Equity Incentive Plan, as follows:

January 7, 2013	50,000
January 7, 2014	50,000
January 7, 2015	50,000

(iii) In the event of a termination of Executive's Employment by the Company other than for Cause (as defined below) or in the event of termination by Executive for Good Reason (as defined below) within 12 months following a Change of Control (as defined below), or prior to a Change of Control at the direction of a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company, the consummation of which will constitute a Change of Control, and contingent upon Executive's execution of a full release of claims in the manner set forth in Section 10(h), all options or stock awards granted under any stock option and stock incentive plans of the Company that are outstanding as of the date of termination shall become immediately vested, and in the case of stock options, shall immediately become exercisable in full and shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (A) two years after termination of Executive's employment by the Company or (B) the option expiration date as set forth in the applicable option agreement.

(iv) A "Change of Control" shall mean that one of the following events has taken place at any time during the Term:

(A) The stockholders of the Company approve one of the following:

(I) Any merger or statutory plan of exchange involving the Company (“Merger”) in which the Company is not the continuing or surviving corporation or pursuant to which the Common Stock, \$0.001 par value (“Common Stock”) would be converted into cash, securities or other property, other than a Merger involving the Company in which the holders of Common Stock immediately prior to the Merger have substantially the same proportionate ownership of common stock of the surviving corporation after the Merger; or

(II) Any sale, lease, exchange, or other transfer (in one transaction or a series of related transactions) of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or the adoption of any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution;

(B) During any period of 12 months or less, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted a majority of the Board of Directors cease for any reason to constitute a majority thereof unless the nomination or election of such new directors was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then still in office who were directors at the beginning of such period;

(C) A tender or exchange offer, other than one made by:

(I) the Company, or by

(II) W. Kent Taylor or any corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity in which W. Kent Taylor (x) owns a direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more or (y) controls 50% or more of the voting power (collectively, the “Taylor Parties”)

is made for the Common Stock (or securities convertible into Common Stock) and such offer results in a portion of those securities being purchased and the offeror after the consummation of the offer is the beneficial owner (as determined pursuant to Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), directly or indirectly, of securities representing in excess of the greater of (a) at least 20 percent of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company or (b) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties; or

(D) Any person other than a Taylor Party becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing in excess of the greater of (i) 20 percent of the aggregate voting power of the outstanding securities of

the Company as disclosed in a report on Schedule 13D of the Exchange Act or (ii) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties.

Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing to the contrary, no Change of Control shall be deemed to have occurred for purposes of this Agreement by virtue of any transaction which results in Executive, or a group of persons which includes Executive, acquiring, directly or indirectly, securities representing 20 percent or more of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company.

(v) A termination by Executive for “Good Reason” shall mean a termination based on:

(A) the assignment to Executive of a different title or job responsibilities that result in a substantial decrease in the level of responsibility from those in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(B) a reduction by the Company or the surviving company in Executive’s base pay as in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(C) a significant reduction by the Company or the surviving company in total benefits available to Executive under cash incentive, stock incentive and other employee benefit plans after the Change of Control compared to the total package of such benefits as in effect prior to the Change of Control;

(D) the requirement by the Company or the surviving company that Executive be based more than 50 miles from where Executive’s office is located immediately prior to the Change of Control, except for required travel on company business to an extent substantially consistent with the business travel obligations which Executive undertook on behalf of the Company prior to the Change of Control; or

(E) the failure by the Company to obtain from any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company (“Successor”) the assent to this Agreement contemplated by Section 13(g) hereof;

which is not cured within 30 days after Executive has delivered written notice of such condition to the Employer. In each case, Executive must give the Company notice of the condition within 90 days of the initial existence of the condition, and the separation from service must occur within a period of time not to exceed two years (or such shorter period as provided herein) following the initial existence of

one or more of the conditions set forth above, or any termination will not be considered to be for Good Reason.

(d) *Benefits.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee benefit plans and programs of the Company that are available to employees generally to the extent that Executive meets the eligibility requirements for each individual plan or program. The Company provides no assurance as to the adoption or continuance of any particular employee benefit plan or program, and Executive's participation in any such plan or program shall be subject to the provisions, rules and regulations applicable thereto.

(e) *Expenses.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall reimburse Executive for all reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket business, travel and entertainment expenses incurred by him in the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder, subject to the Company's normal policies and procedures for expense verification and documentation. Any reimbursements made under this Section 4(e) will be paid on or before the last day of the Executive's taxable year following the taxable year in which the expense is incurred.

(f) *Vacations and Holidays .* Executive shall be entitled to be absent from his duties for the Company by reason of vacation for a period of four weeks per fiscal year, or such longer period as the Company allows based on employment tenure with the Company. The Executive's vacation time each fiscal year will accrue in accordance with the Company's normal policies and procedures. Executive shall coordinate his vacation schedule with the Company so as not to impose an undue burden on the Company. In addition, Executive shall be entitled to such national and religious holidays as the Company shall approve for all of its employees from time to time.

(g) *Clawback Provisions.* Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement to the contrary, any incentive based compensation, or any other compensation, paid or payable to Executive pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement or arrangement with the Company which is subject to recovery under any law, government regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement, will be subject to such deductions and clawback (recovery) as may be required to be made pursuant to law, government regulation, order, stock exchange listing requirement (or any policy of the Company adopted pursuant to any such law, government, regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement). Executive specifically authorizes the Company to withhold from his future wages any amounts that may become due under this provision. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Executive's authorization to withhold amounts from future wages that may become due under this provision does not apply and is specifically rescinded in the event of a Change in Control. This section 4(g) shall survive the termination of this Agreement for a period of three (3) years.

5. *Affiliated Entities.* As used in this Agreement, "Company" shall include the Company and each corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity that is controlled by Texas Roadhouse, Inc., or is under common control with the Texas

6. *Confidential Information; Non-Disparagement.*

(a) Except as required in the performance of Executive’s duties as an employee of the Company or as authorized in writing by the Board, Executive shall not, either during Executive’s employment with the Company or at any time thereafter, use, disclose or make accessible to any person any confidential information for any purpose. “Confidential Information” means information proprietary to the Company or its suppliers or prospective suppliers and not generally known (including trade secret information) about the Company’s suppliers, products, services, personnel, customers, recipes, pricing, sales strategies, technology, computer software code, methods, processes, designs, research, development systems, techniques, finances, accounting, purchasing, and plans. All information disclosed to Executive or to which Executive obtains access, whether originated by Executive or by others, during the period of Executive’s employment by the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term), shall be presumed to be Confidential Information if it is treated by the Company as being Confidential Information or if Executive has a reasonable basis to believe it to be Confidential Information. Executive acknowledges that the above-described knowledge and information constitutes a unique and valuable asset of the Company and represents a substantial investment of time and expense by the Company, and that any disclosure or other use of such knowledge or information other than for the sole benefit of the Company would be wrongful and would cause irreparable harm to the Company. During Executive’s employment with the Company, Executive shall refrain from committing any acts that would materially reduce the value of such knowledge or information to the Company. The foregoing obligations of confidentiality shall not apply to any knowledge or information that (i) is now or subsequently becomes generally publicly known, or (ii) is required to be disclosed by law or legal process, other than as a direct or indirect result of the breach of this Agreement by Executive. Executive acknowledges that the obligations imposed by this Section 6 are in addition to, and not in place of, any obligations imposed by applicable statutory or common law.

(b) Executive shall not at any time during the Term and during the Restricted Period (as defined below), or after the Term disparage the Company, any of its affiliates and any of their respective officers and directors, and shall not, without the prior written consent of the Company, disclose any information he may have learned during employment with the Company, including, but not limited to, any personal or financial information about an officer or director or his or her family member(s).

7. *Noncompetition Covenant.*

(a) *Agreement Not to Compete.* During Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on his own behalf or on behalf of any person or entity other than the Company, including without limitation as a proprietor, principal, agent, partner, officer, director, stockholder, employee, member of any association, consultant or otherwise, engage in any business that is directly competitive with the business of the Company, including without limitation any business that operates one or more full-service, casual dining steakhouse restaurants, within the 50 United States or any foreign country in which the Company is operating or in which the Executive knows the Company contemplates commencing operations during the Restricted Period. The provisions of this Section 7 (a) shall also apply to any business which is directly competitive with any other business which the Company acquires or develops during Executive's employment with the Company.

(b) *Agreement Not to Hire.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, hire, engage or solicit or induce or attempt to induce to cease working for the Company, any person who is then an employee of the Company or who was an employee of the Company during the six (6) month period immediately preceding Executive's termination of employment with the Company.

(c) *Agreement Not to Solicit.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, request, advise, induce or attempt to induce any vendor, supplier or other business contact of the Company to cancel, curtail, cease doing business with, or otherwise adversely change its relationship with the Company.

(d) *Restricted Period.* "Restricted Period" hereunder means the period commencing on the last day of Executive's employment with the Company and ending on the date that is two years following the last day of the Term.

(i) In the event the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement, and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, the Restricted Period will begin on the last day of the Executive's employment with the Company and end on the date the last payment of the current base salary is made to the Executive pursuant to paragraph 10(c).

(e) *Acknowledgment.* Executive hereby acknowledges that the provisions of this Section 7 are reasonable and necessary to protect the legitimate interests of the Company and that any violation of this Section 7 by Executive shall cause substantial and irreparable harm to the Company to such an extent that monetary damages alone would be an inadequate remedy therefor. Therefore, in the event that

Executive violates any provision of this Section 7, the Company shall be entitled to an injunction, in addition to all the other remedies it may have, restraining Executive from violating or continuing to violate such provision.

(f) *Blue Pencil Doctrine.* If the duration of, the scope of or any business activity covered by any provision of this Section 7 is in excess of what is determined to be valid and enforceable under applicable law, such provision shall be construed to cover only that duration, scope or activity that is determined to be valid and enforceable. Executive hereby acknowledges that this Section 7 shall be given the construction that renders its provisions valid and enforceable to the maximum extent, not exceeding its express terms, possible under applicable law.

(g) *Permitted Equity Ownership.* Ownership by Executive, as a passive investment, of less than 2.5% of the outstanding shares of capital stock of any corporation listed on a national securities exchange or publicly traded in the over-the-counter market shall not constitute a breach of this Section 7.

8. *Intellectual Property.*

(a) *Disclosure and Assignment.* As of the Effective Date, Executive hereby transfers and assigns to the Company (or its designee) all right, title, and interest of Executive in and to every idea, concept, invention, and improvement (whether patented, patentable or not) conceived or reduced to practice by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company, and all copyrighted or copyrightable matter created by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company that relates to the Company's business (collectively, "Creations"). Executive shall communicate promptly and disclose to the Company, in such form as the Company may request, all information, details, and data pertaining to each Creation. Every copyrightable Creation, regardless of whether copyright protection is sought or preserved by the Company, shall be a "work made for hire" as defined in 17 U.S.C. § 101, and the Company shall own all rights in and to such matter throughout the world, without the payment of any royalty or other consideration to Executive or anyone claiming through Executive.

(b) *Trademarks.* All right, title, and interest in and to any and all trademarks, trade names, service marks, and logos adopted, used, or considered for use by the Company during Executive's employment (whether or not developed by Executive) to identify the Company's business or other goods or services (collectively, the "Marks"), together with the goodwill appurtenant thereto, and all other materials, ideas, or other property conceived, created, developed, adopted, or improved by Executive solely or jointly during Executive's employment by the Company and relating to its business shall be owned exclusively by the Company. Executive shall not have, and will not claim to have, any right, title, or interest of any kind in or to the Marks or such other property.

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(c) *Documentation.* Executive shall execute and deliver to the Company such formal transfers and assignments and such other documents as the Company may request to permit the Company (or its designee) to file and prosecute such registration applications and other documents it deems useful to protect or enforce its rights hereunder. Any idea, invention, copyrightable matter, or other property relating to the Company's business and disclosed by Executive prior to the first anniversary of the effective date of Executive's termination of employment shall be deemed to be governed by the terms of this Section 8 unless proven by Executive to have been first conceived and made after such termination date.

(d) *Non-Applicability.* Executive is hereby notified that this Section 8 does not apply to any invention for which no equipment, supplies, facility, Confidential Information, or other trade secret information of the Company was used and which was developed entirely on Executive's own time, unless (i) the invention relates (A) directly to the business of the Company or (B) to the Company's actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development, or (ii) the invention results from any work performed by Executive for the Company.

9. *Termination of Employment.*

(a) Executive's employment with the Company shall terminate immediately upon:

- (i) Executive's receipt of written notice from the Company of the termination of his employment;
- (ii) the Company's receipt of Executive's written or oral resignation from the Company;
- (iii) Executive's Disability (as defined below); or
- (iv) Executive's death.

(b) The date upon which Executive's termination of employment with the Company occurs shall be the "Termination Date."

Provided that, for purposes of the timing of payments triggered by the Termination Date under Section 10, the Termination Date shall not be considered to have occurred until the date the Executive and the Company reasonably anticipate that (i) Executive will not perform any further services for the Company or any other entity considered a single employer with the Company under Section 414 (b) or (c) of the Internal Revenue Code (but substituting 50% for 80% in the application thereof) (the "Employer Group"), or (ii) the

level of bona fide services Executive will perform for the Employer Group after that date will permanently decrease to less than 20% of the average level of bona fide services performed over the previous 36 months (or if shorter over the duration of service). For this purpose, service performed as an employee or as an independent contractor is

counted, except that service as a member of the board of directors of an Employer Group entity is not counted unless termination benefits under this Employment Agreement are aggregated with benefits under any other Employer Group plan or agreement in which Executive also participates as a director. Executive will not be treated as having a termination of his employment while he is on military leave, sick leave or other bona fide leave of absence if the leave does not exceed six months or, if longer, the period during which Executive has a reemployment right under statute or contract. If a bona fide leave of absence extends beyond six months, Executive's employment will be considered to terminate on the first day after the end of such six month period, or on the day after Executive's statutory or contractual reemployment right lapses, if later. The Company will determine when Executive's Termination Date occurs based on all relevant facts and circumstances, in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h).

10. *Payments upon Termination of Employment.*

(a) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by reason of:

- (i) Executive's abandonment of his employment or Executive's resignation for any reason (whether or not such resignation is set forth in writing or otherwise communicated to the Company);
- (ii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company for Cause (as defined below); or
- (iii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company without Cause following expiration of the Term;

the Company shall pay to Executive his then-current base salary through the Termination Date.

(b) Except in the case of a Change in Control, which is governed by Section 10(c) below, if Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by the Company pursuant to Section 9(a)(i) effective prior to the expiration of the Term for any reason other than for Cause (as defined below), then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Section 10(h) of this Agreement:

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of his then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through

the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and

- (iv) \$150,000.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(b)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(ii) shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

(c) If Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, or if the Executive's employment is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason following a Change in Control and before the end of the Term, then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Executive's compliance with Section 10(h) of this Agreement, an amount equal to his then current base salary and incentive bonus through the end of Term of the Agreement, paid in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices, but in no event will the Company pay the Executive less than one year of his current base salary and incentive bonus. At the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(c) may be paid in a lump sum.

(d) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated effective prior to the expiration of the Term by reason of Executive's death or Disability, the Company shall pay to Executive or his beneficiary or his estate, as the case may be;

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of his then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and

- (iv) \$150,000.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(ii) shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

(e) “Cause” hereunder shall mean:

- (i) an act or acts of dishonesty undertaken by Executive and intended to result in substantial gain or personal enrichment of Executive at the expense of the Company;
- (ii) unlawful conduct or gross misconduct that is willful and deliberate on Executive's part and that, in either event, is materially injurious to the Company;
- (iii) the conviction of Executive of a felony;
- (iv) material and deliberate failure of Executive to perform his duties and responsibilities hereunder or to satisfy his obligations as an officer or employee of the Company, which failure has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company; or
- (v) material breach of any terms and conditions of this Agreement by Executive not caused by the Company, which breach has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company.

(f) “Disability” hereunder shall mean the inability of Executive to perform on a full-time basis the duties and responsibilities of his employment with the Company by reason of his illness or other physical or mental impairment or condition, if

such inability continues for an uninterrupted period of 45 days or more during any 360-day period. A period of inability shall be "uninterrupted" unless and until Executive returns to full-time work for a continuous period of at least 30 days.

(g) In the event of termination of Executive's employment, the sole obligation of the Company hereunder shall be its obligation to make the payments called for by Sections 10(a), 10(b), 10(c) or 10(d) hereof, as the case may be, and the Company shall have no other obligation to Executive or to his beneficiary or his estate, except as otherwise provided by law.

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, the Company shall not be obligated to make any payments under Section 10(b)(ii), (iii) or (iv) or 10(c) of this Agreement unless Executive has signed a full release of claims against the Company, in a form and scope to be prescribed by the Board, all applicable consideration periods and rescission periods provided by law shall have expired, and Executive is in strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement as of the dates of the payments. Executive must execute and deliver such release to the Company on the date set by the Company, which shall be no later than 60 days following Executive's Termination Date, and the release will be delivered by the Company to the Executive at least 21 days before the deadline set for its return.

11. *Return of Property.* Upon termination of Executive's employment with the Company, Executive shall deliver promptly to the Company all records, files, manuals, books, forms, documents, letters, memoranda, data, customer lists, tables, photographs, video tapes, audio tapes, computer disks and other computer storage media, and copies thereof, that are the property of the Company, or that relate in any way to the business, products, services, personnel, customers, prospective customers, suppliers, practices, or techniques of the Company, and all other property of the Company (such as, for example, computers, pagers, credit cards, and keys), whether or not containing Confidential Information, that are in Executive's possession or under Executive's control.

12. *Remedies.* Executive acknowledges that it would be difficult to fully compensate the Company for monetary damages resulting from any breach by him of the provisions of Sections 6, 7, 8, and 11 hereof. Accordingly, in the event of any actual or threatened breach of any such provisions, the Company shall, in addition to any other remedies it may have, be entitled to injunctive and other equitable relief to enforce such provisions, and such relief may be granted without the necessity of proving actual monetary damages.

13. *Miscellaneous.*

(a) *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky without regard to conflict of law principles. Any action relating to this Agreement shall only be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the parties consent to the jurisdiction, venue and convenience of such courts.

(b) *Jurisdiction and Law.* Executive and the Company consent to jurisdiction of the courts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and/or the federal district courts, Western District of Kentucky, for the purpose of resolving all issues of law, equity, or fact, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Any action involving claims of a breach of this Agreement shall be brought in such courts. Each party consents to personal jurisdiction over such party in the state and/or federal courts of Kentucky and hereby waives any defense of lack of personal jurisdiction or *forum non conveniens*. Venue, for the purpose of all such suits, shall be in Jefferson County, Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(c) *Entire Agreement.* Except for any written stock option agreement and related agreements between Executive and the Company, this Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties relating to Executive's employment with the Company and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to such subject matter including without limitation the Prior Employment Agreement, and the parties hereto have made no agreements, representations or warranties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement that are not set forth herein. As of the Effective Date, the Prior Employment Agreement shall terminate and be of no further force or effect; provided, however, any obligations of Executive or the Company arising under the Prior Employment Agreement prior to the Effective Date shall survive such termination.

(d) *No Violation of Other Agreements.* Executive hereby represents and agrees that neither (i) Executive's entering into this Agreement, (ii) Executive's employment with the Company, nor (iii) Executive's carrying out the provisions of this Agreement, will violate any other agreement (oral, written or other) to which Executive is a party or by which Executive is bound.

(e) *Amendments.* No amendment or modification of this Agreement shall be deemed effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

(f) *No Waiver.* No term or condition of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been waived, except by a statement in writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of the waiver is sought. Any written waiver shall not be deemed a continuing waiver unless specifically stated, shall operate only as to the specific term or condition waived and shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition for the future or as to any act other than that specifically waived.

(g) *Assignment.* This Agreement shall not be assignable, in whole or in part, by either party without the prior written consent of the other party, except that the Company may, without the consent of Executive, assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement (i) to any entity with which the Company may merge or consolidate, or (ii) to any corporation or other person or business entity to which the Company may sell or transfer all or substantially all of its assets. Upon Executive's written request, the Company will seek to have any Successor by agreement assent to the fulfillment by the Company of its obligations under this Agreement. After any assignment by the Company pursuant to this Section 13(g), the Company shall be discharged from all further liability

hereunder and such assignee shall thereafter be deemed to be the “Company” for purposes of all terms and conditions of this Agreement, including this Section 13.

(h) *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and such counterparts executed and delivered, each as an original, shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

(i) *Severability.* Subject to Section 7(f) hereof, to the extent that any portion of any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable, it shall be considered deleted herefrom and the remainder of such provision and of this Agreement shall be unaffected and shall continue in full force and effect.

(j) *Survival.* The terms and conditions set forth in Sections 4(g), 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13 of this Agreement, and any other provision that continues by its terms, shall survive expiration of the Term or termination of Executive’s employment for any reason.

(k) *Captions and Headings.* The captions and paragraph headings used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement or any of the provisions hereof.

(l) *Notices .* Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be sufficient if in writing and either delivered in person or sent by first class certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, if to the Company, at the Company’s principal place of business, and if to Executive, at his home address most recently filed with the Company, or to such other address or addresses as either party shall have designated in writing to the other party hereto.

(m) *Six Month Delay .* Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if the Executive is a “specified employee” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(i) (or any successor thereto) on his Termination Date, any payments hereunder that are triggered by termination of employment and which are not exempt as separation pay under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(9) or as short-term deferral pay, shall not begin to be paid until six months after his Termination Date, and at that time, the Executive will receive in one lump sum payment of all the payments that would have otherwise been paid to the Executive during the first six months following the Executive’s Termination Date. The Company shall determine, consistent with any guidance issued under Code Section 409A, the portion of payments that are required to be delayed, if any.

(n) *409A Compliance .* The Executive and the Company agree and confirm that this Employment Agreement is intended by both parties to provide for compensation that is exempt from Code Section 409A as separation pay (up to the Code Section 409A limit) or as a short-term deferral, and to be compliant with Code Section 409A with respect to additional severance compensation and bonus compensation. This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, and administered in accordance with this

agreed intent, provided that the Company does not promise or warrant any tax treatment of compensation hereunder. Executive is responsible for obtaining advice regarding all questions to federal, state, or local income, estate, payroll, or other tax consequences arising from participation herein. This Agreement shall not be amended or terminated in a manner that would accelerate or delay payment of severance pay or bonus pay except as permitted under Treasury Regulations under Code Section 409A.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Executive and the Company have executed this Agreement on this 6th day of January, 2012.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP.

By: /s/ W. Kent Taylor
W. Kent Taylor
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer

SCOTT M. COLOSI

/s/ Scott M. Colosi

AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
(Steven L. Ortiz)

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is entered into as of January 8, 2012 by and between TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP., a Kentucky corporation (the “Company”), and STEVEN L. ORTIZ, a resident of the State of Nevada (“Executive”).

RECITALS

A. The Executive is currently employed as the Chief Operating Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. pursuant to an Employment Agreement dated January 14, 2008, as amended by that Amendment to Employment Agreement effective as of January 1, 2009 and by that Second Amendment to Employment Agreement dated February 18, 2010, (the “Existing Employment Agreement”).

B. Executive and the Company each desire to replace the Existing Employment Agreement with this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the respective agreements of the Company and Executive set forth below, the Company and Executive, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

1. *Effective Date.* The terms and conditions of Executive’s employment hereunder shall become effective January 8, 2012 (the “Effective Date”). The parties agree that the Existing Employment Agreement is superseded and replaced by this Agreement and that the Existing Employment Agreement is of no further force and effect as of the Effective Date.

2. *Employment.* Subject to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Executive’s period of employment under this Agreement shall be the period commencing on the Effective Date and ending on January 7, 2015 (the “Third Anniversary Date”), which term, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, shall be extended on the Anniversary Date and on each anniversary of that date thereafter, for a period of one year thereafter (which term together with any such extensions, if any, shall be hereinafter defined as the “Term”), unless the Executive’s employment terminates earlier in accordance with Section 9 hereof. Thereafter, if Executive continues in the employ of the Company, the employment relationship shall be at will, terminable by either Executive or the Company at any time and for any reason, with or without cause, and subject to such terms and conditions established by the Company from time to time.

3. *Position and Duties.*

(a) *Employment with the Company.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be employed as the Chief Operating Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc., and such other titles as the Company may designate, and shall perform such duties and responsibilities as the Company shall assign to him from time to time, including duties and responsibilities relating to Texas Roadhouse, Inc.'s wholly-owned and partially owned subsidiaries and other affiliates.

(b) *Performance of Duties and Responsibilities.* Executive shall serve the Company faithfully and to the best of his ability and shall devote his full working time, attention and efforts to the business of the Company during his employment with the Company hereunder. While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall report to the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer or to such other person as designated by the Board of Directors of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Board"). Executive hereby represents and confirms that he is under no contractual or legal commitments that would prevent him from fulfilling his duties and responsibilities as set forth in this Agreement. During his employment with the Company, Executive shall not accept other employment or engage in other material business activity, except as approved in writing by the Board. Executive may participate in charitable activities and personal investment activities to a reasonable extent, and he may serve as a director of business organizations as approved by the Board, so long as such activities and directorships do not interfere with the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder.

4. *Compensation.*

(a) *Base Salary.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall pay to Executive a base salary at the rate of Four Hundred Eighty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$480,000.00) per fiscal year, less deductions and withholdings, which base salary shall be paid in accordance with the Company's normal payroll policies and procedures. If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's base salary may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(b) *Incentive Bonus.* Commencing with the first full fiscal quarter of the Company's 2012 fiscal year and for each full fiscal quarter thereafter that Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be eligible for an annual incentive bonus, to be paid on a quarterly basis, based upon achievement of defined goals established by the Compensation Committee of the Board and in accordance with the terms of any incentive plan of the Company in effect from time to time (the "Incentive Bonus").

(i) The level of achievement of the objectives each fiscal quarter and the amount payable as Incentive Bonus shall be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee of the Board. Any Incentive Bonus earned for a fiscal

quarter shall be paid to Executive in a single lump sum on or before the 74th day following the last day of such fiscal quarter.

(ii) Subject to the achievement of the goals established by the Compensation Committee, as determined by the Compensation Committee, in fiscal year 2012, Executive shall be eligible for an annual target incentive bonus of Four Hundred Eighty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$480,000.00). If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's annual target incentive bonus may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(c) *Stock Awards .*

(i) Pursuant to Section 7 of the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Equity Incentive Plan") in place on the Effective Date, on January 8, 2012 the Executive shall be granted a stock bonus award whereby the Executive has the conditional right to receive upon vesting 180,000 shares of the common stock of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Restricted Stock Units"), provided this Agreement has been fully executed by both the Executive and the Company. If it has not been fully executed by January 8, 2012, the Restricted Stock Units will be granted to the Executive on the date it is fully executed.

(ii) The Restricted Stock Units shall vest in three equal installments as follows provided the Executive continues to provide services to the Company, as provided in the Equity Incentive Plan, as follows:

January 7, 2013	60,000
January 7, 2014	60,000
January 7, 2015	60,000

(iii) In the event of a termination of Executive's Employment by the Company other than for Cause (as defined below) or in the event of termination by Executive for Good Reason (as defined below) within 12 months following a Change of Control (as defined below), or prior to a Change of Control at the direction of a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company, the consummation of which will constitute a Change of Control, and contingent upon Executive's execution of a full release of claims in the manner set forth in Section 10(h), all options or stock awards granted under any stock option and stock incentive plans of the Company that are outstanding as of the date of termination shall become immediately vested, and in the case of stock options, shall immediately become exercisable in full and shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (A) two years after termination of Executive's employment by the Company or (B) the option expiration date as set forth in the applicable option agreement.

(iv) A “Change of Control” shall mean that one of the following events has taken place at any time during the Term:

(A) The stockholders of the Company approve one of the following:

(I) Any merger or statutory plan of exchange involving the Company (“Merger”) in which the Company is not the continuing or surviving corporation or pursuant to which the Common Stock, \$0.001 par value (“Common Stock”) would be converted into cash, securities or other property, other than a Merger involving the Company in which the holders of Common Stock immediately prior to the Merger have substantially the same proportionate ownership of common stock of the surviving corporation after the Merger; or

(II) Any sale, lease, exchange, or other transfer (in one transaction or a series of related transactions) of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or the adoption of any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution;

(B) During any period of 12 months or less, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted a majority of the Board of Directors cease for any reason to constitute a majority thereof unless the nomination or election of such new directors was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then still in office who were directors at the beginning of such period;

(C) A tender or exchange offer, other than one made by:

(I) the Company, or by

(II) W. Kent Taylor or any corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity in which W. Kent Taylor (x) owns a direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more or (y) controls 50% or more of the voting power (collectively, the “Taylor Parties”)

is made for the Common Stock (or securities convertible into Common Stock) and such offer results in a portion of those securities being purchased and the offeror after the consummation of the offer is the beneficial owner (as determined pursuant to Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), directly or indirectly, of securities representing in excess of the greater of (a) at least 20 percent of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company or (b) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties; or

(D) Any person other than a Taylor Party becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing in excess of the greater of (i) 20 percent of the aggregate voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company as disclosed in a report on Schedule 13D of the Exchange Act or (ii) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties.

Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing to the contrary, no Change of Control shall be deemed to have occurred for purposes of this Agreement by virtue of any transaction which results in Executive, or a group of persons which includes Executive, acquiring, directly or indirectly, securities representing 20 percent or more of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company.

(v) A termination by Executive for "Good Reason" shall mean a termination based on:

(A) the assignment to Executive of a different title or job responsibilities that result in a substantial decrease in the level of responsibility from those in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(B) a reduction by the Company or the surviving company in Executive's base pay as in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(C) a significant reduction by the Company or the surviving company in total benefits available to Executive under cash incentive, stock incentive and other employee benefit plans after the Change of Control compared to the total package of such benefits as in effect prior to the Change of Control;

(D) the requirement by the Company or the surviving company that Executive be based more than 50 miles from where Executive's office is located immediately prior to the Change of Control, except for required travel on company business to an extent substantially consistent with the business travel obligations which Executive undertook on behalf of the Company prior to the Change of Control; or

(E) the failure by the Company to obtain from any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company ("Successor") the assent to this Agreement contemplated by Section 13(g) hereof;

which is not cured within 30 days after Executive has delivered written notice of such condition to the Employer. In each case, Executive must give the Company notice of the condition within 90 days of the initial existence of the condition, and

the separation from service must occur within a period of time not to exceed two years (or such shorter period as provided herein) following the initial existence of one or more of the conditions set forth above, or any termination will not be considered to be for Good Reason.

(d) *Benefits.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee benefit plans and programs of the Company that are available to employees generally to the extent that Executive meets the eligibility requirements for each individual plan or program. The Company provides no assurance as to the adoption or continuance of any particular employee benefit plan or program, and Executive's participation in any such plan or program shall be subject to the provisions, rules and regulations applicable thereto.

(e) *Expenses.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall reimburse Executive for all reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket business, travel and entertainment expenses incurred by him in the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder, subject to the Company's normal policies and procedures for expense verification and documentation. Any reimbursements made under this Section 4(e) will be paid on or before the last day of the Executive's taxable year following the taxable year in which the expense is incurred.

(f) *Vacations and Holidays .* Executive shall be entitled to be absent from his duties for the Company by reason of vacation for a period of four weeks per fiscal year, or such longer period as the Company allows based on employment tenure with the Company. The Executive's vacation time each fiscal year will accrue in accordance with the Company's normal policies and procedures. Executive shall coordinate his vacation schedule with the Company so as not to impose an undue burden on the Company. In addition, Executive shall be entitled to such national and religious holidays as the Company shall approve for all of its employees from time to time.

(g) *Clawback Provisions.* Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement to the contrary, any incentive based compensation, or any other compensation, paid or payable to Executive pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement or arrangement with the Company which is subject to recovery under any law, government regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement, will be subject to such deductions and clawback (recovery) as may be required to be made pursuant to law, government regulation, order, stock exchange listing requirement (or any policy of the Company adopted pursuant to any such law, government, regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement). Notwithstanding the foregoing, Executive's authorization to withhold amounts from future wages that may become due under this provision does not apply and is specifically rescinded in the event of a Change in Control. Executive specifically authorizes the Company to withhold from his future wages any amounts that may become due under this provision. This section 4(g) shall survive the termination of this Agreement for a period of three (3) years.

5. *Affiliated Entities.* As used in this Agreement, “Company” shall include the Company and each corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity that is controlled by Texas Roadhouse, Inc., or is under common control with the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (in each case “control” meaning the direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more of all outstanding equity interests).

6. *Confidential Information; Non-Disparagement.*

(a) Except as required in the performance of Executive’s duties as an employee of the Company or as authorized in writing by the Board, Executive shall not, either during Executive’s employment with the Company or at any time thereafter, use, disclose or make accessible to any person any confidential information for any purpose. “Confidential Information” means information proprietary to the Company or its suppliers or prospective suppliers and not generally known (including trade secret information) about the Company’s suppliers, products, services, personnel, customers, recipes, pricing, sales strategies, technology, computer software code, methods, processes, designs, research, development systems, techniques, finances, accounting, purchasing, and plans. All information disclosed to Executive or to which Executive obtains access, whether originated by Executive or by others, during the period of Executive’s employment by the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term), shall be presumed to be Confidential Information if it is treated by the Company as being Confidential Information or if Executive has a reasonable basis to believe it to be Confidential Information. Executive acknowledges that the above-described knowledge and information constitutes a unique and valuable asset of the Company and represents a substantial investment of time and expense by the Company, and that any disclosure or other use of such knowledge or information other than for the sole benefit of the Company would be wrongful and would cause irreparable harm to the Company. During Executive’s employment with the Company, Executive shall refrain from committing any acts that would materially reduce the value of such knowledge or information to the Company. The foregoing obligations of confidentiality shall not apply to any knowledge or information that (i) is now or subsequently becomes generally publicly known, or (ii) is required to be disclosed by law or legal process, other than as a direct or indirect result of the breach of this Agreement by Executive. Executive acknowledges that the obligations imposed by this Section 6 are in addition to, and not in place of, any obligations imposed by applicable statutory or common law.

(b) Executive shall not at any time during the Term and during the Restricted Period (as defined below), or after the Term disparage the Company, any of its affiliates and any of their respective officers and directors, and shall not, without the prior written consent of the Company, disclose any information he may have learned during employment with the Company, including, but not limited to, any personal or financial information about an officer or director or his or her family member(s).

7. *Noncompetition Covenant.*

(a) *Agreement Not to Compete.* During Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on his own behalf or on behalf of any person or entity other than the Company, including without limitation as a proprietor, principal, agent, partner, officer, director, stockholder, employee, member of any association, consultant or otherwise, engage in any business that is directly competitive with the business of the Company, including without limitation any business that operates one or more full-service, casual dining steakhouse restaurants, within the 50 United States or any foreign country in which the Company is operating or in which the Executive knows the Company contemplates commencing operations during the Restricted Period. The provisions of this Section 7 (a) shall also apply to any business which is directly competitive with any other business which the Company acquires or develops during Executive's employment with the Company.

(b) *Agreement Not to Hire.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, hire, engage or solicit or induce or attempt to induce to cease working for the Company, any person who is then an employee of the Company or who was an employee of the Company during the six (6) month period immediately preceding Executive's termination of employment with the Company.

(c) *Agreement Not to Solicit.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, request, advise, induce or attempt to induce any vendor, supplier or other business contact of the Company to cancel, curtail, cease doing business with, or otherwise adversely change its relationship with the Company.

(d) *Restricted Period.* "Restricted Period" hereunder means the period commencing on the last day of Executive's employment with the Company and ending on the date that is two years following the last day of the Term.

(i) In the event the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement, and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, the Restricted Period will begin on the last day of the Executive's employment with the Company and end on the date the last payment of the current base salary is made to the Executive pursuant to paragraph 10(c).

(e) *Acknowledgment.* Executive hereby acknowledges that the provisions of this Section 7 are reasonable and necessary to protect the legitimate

interests of the Company and that any violation of this Section 7 by Executive shall cause substantial and irreparable harm to the Company to such an extent that monetary damages alone would be an inadequate remedy therefor. Therefore, in the event that Executive violates any provision of this Section 7, the Company shall be entitled to an injunction, in addition to all the other remedies it may have, restraining Executive from violating or continuing to violate such provision.

(f) *Blue Pencil Doctrine.* If the duration of, the scope of or any business activity covered by any provision of this Section 7 is in excess of what is determined to be valid and enforceable under applicable law, such provision shall be construed to cover only that duration, scope or activity that is determined to be valid and enforceable. Executive hereby acknowledges that this Section 7 shall be given the construction that renders its provisions valid and enforceable to the maximum extent, not exceeding its express terms, possible under applicable law.

(g) *Permitted Equity Ownership.* Ownership by Executive, as a passive investment, of less than 2.5% of the outstanding shares of capital stock of any corporation listed on a national securities exchange or publicly traded in the over-the-counter market shall not constitute a breach of this Section 7.

8. *Intellectual Property.*

(a) *Disclosure and Assignment.* As of the Effective Date, Executive hereby transfers and assigns to the Company (or its designee) all right, title, and interest of Executive in and to every idea, concept, invention, and improvement (whether patented, patentable or not) conceived or reduced to practice by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company, and all copyrighted or copyrightable matter created by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company that relates to the Company's business (collectively, "Creations"). Executive shall communicate promptly and disclose to the Company, in such form as the Company may request, all information, details, and data pertaining to each Creation. Every copyrightable Creation, regardless of whether copyright protection is sought or preserved by the Company, shall be a "work made for hire" as defined in 17 U.S.C. § 101, and the Company shall own all rights in and to such matter throughout the world, without the payment of any royalty or other consideration to Executive or anyone claiming through Executive.

(b) *Trademarks.* All right, title, and interest in and to any and all trademarks, trade names, service marks, and logos adopted, used, or considered for use by the Company during Executive's employment (whether or not developed by Executive)

to identify the Company's business or other goods or services (collectively, the "Marks"), together with the goodwill appurtenant thereto, and all other materials, ideas, or other property conceived, created, developed, adopted, or improved by Executive solely or jointly during Executive's employment by the Company and relating to its business shall be owned exclusively by the Company. Executive shall not have, and

will not claim to have, any right, title, or interest of any kind in or to the Marks or such other property.

(c) *Documentation.* Executive shall execute and deliver to the Company such formal transfers and assignments and such other documents as the Company may request to permit the Company (or its designee) to file and prosecute such registration applications and other documents it deems useful to protect or enforce its rights hereunder. Any idea, invention, copyrightable matter, or other property relating to the Company's business and disclosed by Executive prior to the first anniversary of the effective date of Executive's termination of employment shall be deemed to be governed by the terms of this Section 8 unless proven by Executive to have been first conceived and made after such termination date.

(d) *Non-Applicability.* Executive is hereby notified that this Section 8 does not apply to any invention for which no equipment, supplies, facility, Confidential Information, or other trade secret information of the Company was used and which was developed entirely on Executive's own time, unless (i) the invention relates (A) directly to the business of the Company or (B) to the Company's actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development, or (ii) the invention results from any work performed by Executive for the Company.

9. *Termination of Employment.*

(a) Executive's employment with the Company shall terminate immediately upon:

- (i) Executive's receipt of written notice from the Company of the termination of his employment;
- (ii) the Company's receipt of Executive's written or oral resignation from the Company;
- (iii) Executive's Disability (as defined below); or
- (iv) Executive's death.

(b) The date upon which Executive's termination of employment with the Company occurs shall be the "Termination Date."

Provided that, for purposes of the timing of payments triggered by the Termination Date under Section 10, the Termination Date shall not be considered to have occurred until the date the Executive and the Company reasonably anticipate that (i) Executive will not perform any further services for the Company or any other entity considered a single employer with the Company under Section 414 (b) or (c) of the Internal Revenue Code (but substituting 50% for 80% in the application thereof) (the "Employer Group"), or (ii) the level of bona fide services Executive will perform for the Employer Group after that

date will permanently decrease to less than 20% of the average level of bona fide services performed over the previous 36 months (or if shorter over the duration of service). For this purpose, service performed as an employee or as an independent contractor is counted, except that service as a member of the board of directors of an Employer Group entity is not counted unless termination benefits under this Employment Agreement are aggregated with benefits under any other Employer Group plan or agreement in which Executive also participates as a director. Executive will not be treated as having a termination of his employment while he is on military leave, sick leave or other bona fide leave of absence if the leave does not exceed six months or, if longer, the period during which Executive has a reemployment right under statute or contract. If a bona fide leave of absence extends beyond six months, Executive's employment will be considered to terminate on the first day after the end of such six month period, or on the day after Executive's statutory or contractual reemployment right lapses, if later. The Company will determine when Executive's Termination Date occurs based on all relevant facts and circumstances, in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h).

10. *Payments upon Termination of Employment.*

(a) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by reason of:

- (i) Executive's abandonment of his employment or Executive's resignation for any reason (whether or not such resignation is set forth in writing or otherwise communicated to the Company);
- (ii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company for Cause (as defined below); or
- (iii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company without Cause following expiration of the Term;

the Company shall pay to Executive his then-current base salary through the Termination Date.

(b) Except in the case of a Change in Control, which is governed by Section 10(c) below, if Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by the Company pursuant to Section 9(a)(i) effective prior to the expiration of the Term for any reason other than for Cause (as defined below), then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Section 10(h) of this Agreement:

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs; and

- (iii) a crisp \$100 bill from W. Kent Taylor.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(ii) shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law.

(c) If Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, or if the Executive's employment is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason following a Change in Control and before the end of the Term, then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Executive's compliance with Section 10(h) of this Agreement, an amount equal to his then current base salary and incentive bonus through the end of Term of the Agreement, paid in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices, but in no event will the Company pay the Executive less than one year of his current base salary and incentive bonus. At the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(c) may be paid in a lump sum.

(d) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated effective prior to the expiration of the Term by reason of Executive's death or Disability, the Company shall pay to Executive or his beneficiary or his estate, as the case may be;

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of his then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and
- (iv) \$240,000.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section

10(d)(ii) shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

(e) “Cause” hereunder shall mean:

- (i) an act or acts of dishonesty undertaken by Executive and intended to result in substantial gain or personal enrichment of Executive at the expense of the Company;
- (ii) unlawful conduct or gross misconduct that is willful and deliberate on Executive’s part and that, in either event, is materially injurious to the Company;
- (iii) the conviction of Executive of a felony;
- (iv) material and deliberate failure of Executive to perform his duties and responsibilities hereunder or to satisfy his obligations as an officer or employee of the Company, which failure has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company; or
- (v) material breach of any terms and conditions of this Agreement by Executive not caused by the Company, which breach has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company.

(f) “Disability” hereunder shall mean the inability of Executive to perform on a full-time basis the duties and responsibilities of his employment with the Company by reason of his illness or other physical or mental impairment or condition, if such inability continues for an uninterrupted period of 45 days or more during any 360-day period. A period of inability shall be “uninterrupted” unless and until Executive returns to full-time work for a continuous period of at least 30 days.

(g) In the event of termination of Executive’s employment, the sole obligation of the Company hereunder shall be its obligation to make the payments called for by Sections 10(a), 10(b), 10(c) or 10(d) hereof, as the case may be, and the Company shall have no other obligation to Executive or to his beneficiary or his estate, except as otherwise provided by law.

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, the Company shall not be obligated to make any payments under Section 10(b)(ii), (iii) or (iv) or 10(c) of this Agreement unless Executive has signed a full release of claims against the Company, in a form and scope to be prescribed by the Board, all applicable consideration periods and rescission periods provided by law shall have expired, and Executive is in strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement as of the dates of the payments. Executive must execute and deliver such release to the Company on the date set by the Company, which shall be no later than 60 days following Executive's Termination Date, and the release will be delivered by the Company to the Executive at least 21 days before the deadline set for its return.

11. *Return of Property.* Upon termination of Executive's employment with the Company, Executive shall deliver promptly to the Company all records, files, manuals, books, forms, documents, letters, memoranda, data, customer lists, tables, photographs, video tapes, audio tapes, computer disks and other computer storage media, and copies thereof, that are the property of the Company, or that relate in any way to the business, products, services, personnel, customers, prospective customers, suppliers, practices, or techniques of the Company, and all other property of the Company (such as, for example, computers, pagers, credit cards, and keys), whether or not containing Confidential Information, that are in Executive's possession or under Executive's control.

12. *Remedies.* Executive acknowledges that it would be difficult to fully compensate the Company for monetary damages resulting from any breach by him of the provisions of Sections 6, 7, 8, and 11 hereof. Accordingly, in the event of any actual or threatened breach of any such provisions, the Company shall, in addition to any other remedies it may have, be entitled to injunctive and other equitable relief to enforce such provisions, and such relief may be granted without the necessity of proving actual monetary damages.

13. *Miscellaneous.*

(a) *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky without regard to conflict of law principles. Any action relating to this Agreement shall only be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the parties consent to the jurisdiction, venue and convenience of such courts.

(b) *Jurisdiction and Law.* Executive and the Company consent to jurisdiction of the courts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and/or the federal district courts, Western District of Kentucky, for the purpose of resolving all issues of law, equity, or fact, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Any action involving claims of a breach of this Agreement shall be brought in such courts. Each party consents to personal jurisdiction over such party in the state and/or federal courts of Kentucky and hereby waives any defense of lack of personal jurisdiction or *forum non conveniens*. Venue, for the purpose of all such suits, shall be in Jefferson County, Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(c) *Entire Agreement.* Except for any written stock option agreement and related agreements between Executive and the Company, this Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties relating to Executive's employment with the Company and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to such subject matter including without limitation the Prior Employment Agreement, and the parties hereto have made no agreements, representations or warranties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement that are not set forth herein. As of the Effective Date, the Prior Employment Agreement shall terminate and be of no further force or effect; provided, however, any obligations of Executive or the Company arising under the Prior Employment Agreement prior to the Effective Date shall survive such termination.

(d) *No Violation of Other Agreements.* Executive hereby represents and agrees that neither (i) Executive's entering into this Agreement, (ii) Executive's employment with the Company, nor (iii) Executive's carrying out the provisions of this Agreement, will violate any other agreement (oral, written or other) to which Executive is a party or by which Executive is bound.

(e) *Amendments.* No amendment or modification of this Agreement shall be deemed effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

(f) *No Waiver.* No term or condition of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been waived, except by a statement in writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of the waiver is sought. Any written waiver shall not be deemed a continuing waiver unless specifically stated, shall operate only as to the specific term or condition waived and shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition for the future or as to any act other than that specifically waived.

(g) *Assignment.* This Agreement shall not be assignable, in whole or in part, by either party without the prior written consent of the other party, except that the Company may, without the consent of Executive, assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement (i) to any entity with which the Company may merge or consolidate, or (ii) to any corporation or other person or business entity to which the Company may sell or transfer all or substantially all of its assets. Upon Executive's written request, the Company will seek to have any Successor by agreement assent to the fulfillment by the Company of its obligations under this Agreement. After any assignment by the Company pursuant to this Section 13(g), the Company shall be discharged from all further liability hereunder and such assignee shall thereafter be deemed to be the "Company" for purposes of all terms and conditions of this Agreement, including this Section 13.

(h) *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and such counterparts executed and delivered, each as an original, shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

(i) *Severability.* Subject to Section 7(f) hereof, to the extent that any portion of any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable, it shall be

considered deleted herefrom and the remainder of such provision and of this Agreement shall be unaffected and shall continue in full force and effect.

(j) *Survival.* The terms and conditions set forth in Sections 4(g), 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13 of this Agreement, and any other provision that continues by its terms, shall survive expiration of the Term or termination of Executive's employment for any reason.

(k) *Captions and Headings.* The captions and paragraph headings used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement or any of the provisions hereof.

(l) *Notices .* Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be sufficient if in writing and either delivered in person or sent by first class certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, if to the Company, at the Company's principal place of business, and if to Executive, at his home address most recently filed with the Company, or to such other address or addresses as either party shall have designated in writing to the other party hereto.

(m) *Six Month Delay .* Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if the Executive is a "specified employee" within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(i) (or any successor thereto) on his Termination Date, any payments hereunder that are triggered by termination of employment and which are not exempt as separation pay under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(9) or as short-term deferral pay, shall not begin to be paid until six months after his Termination Date, and at that time, the Executive will receive in one lump sum payment of all the payments that would have otherwise been paid to the Executive during the first six months following the Executive's Termination Date. The Company shall determine, consistent with any guidance issued under Code Section 409A, the portion of payments that are required to be delayed, if any.

(n) *409A Compliance .* The Executive and the Company agree and confirm that this Employment Agreement is intended by both parties to provide for compensation that is exempt from Code Section 409A as separation pay (up to the Code Section 409A limit) or as a short-term deferral, and to be compliant with Code Section 409A with respect to additional severance compensation and bonus compensation. This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, and administered in accordance with this agreed intent, provided that the Company does not promise or warrant any tax treatment of compensation hereunder. Executive is responsible for obtaining advice regarding all questions to federal, state, or local income, estate, payroll, or other tax consequences arising from participation herein. This Agreement shall not be amended or terminated in a manner that would accelerate or delay payment of severance pay or bonus pay except as permitted under Treasury Regulations under Code Section 409A.

[Remainder of this page intentionally left blank.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Executive and the Company have executed this Agreement on this 6th day of January, 2012.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP.

By: /s/ W. Kent Taylor
W. Kent Taylor
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer

STEVEN L. ORTIZ

/s/ Steven L. Ortiz

**AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
(G. Price Cooper, IV)**

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is entered into as of January 8, 2012 by and between TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP., a Kentucky corporation (the “Company”), and G. PRICE COOPER, IV, a resident of the Commonwealth of Kentucky (“Executive”).

RECITALS

A. The Executive is currently employed as the Chief Financial Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. pursuant to an Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated January 27, 2010 (the “Existing Employment Agreement”).

B. Executive and the Company each desire to replace the Existing Employment Agreement with this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the respective agreements of the Company and Executive set forth below, the Company and Executive, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

1. *Effective Date.* The terms and conditions of Executive’s employment hereunder shall become effective January 8, 2012 (the “Effective Date”). The parties agree that the Existing Employment Agreement is superseded and replaced by this Agreement and that the Existing Employment Agreement is of no further force and effect as of the Effective Date.

2. *Employment.* Subject to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Executive’s period of employment under this Agreement shall be the period commencing on the Effective Date and ending on January 7, 2015 (the “Third Anniversary Date”), which term, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, shall be extended on the Anniversary Date and on each anniversary of that date thereafter, for a period of one year thereafter (which term together with any such extensions, if any, shall be hereinafter defined as the “Term”), unless the Executive’s employment terminates earlier in accordance with Section 9 hereof. Thereafter, if Executive continues in the employ of the Company, the employment relationship shall be at will, terminable by either Executive or the Company at any time and for any reason, with or without cause, and subject to such terms and conditions established by the Company from time to time.

3. *Position and Duties.*

(a) *Employment with the Company.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be employed as the Chief Financial Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc., and such other titles as the Company may designate,

and shall perform such duties and responsibilities as the Company shall assign to him from time to time, including duties and responsibilities relating to Texas Roadhouse, Inc.'s wholly-owned and partially owned subsidiaries and other affiliates.

(b) *Performance of Duties and Responsibilities.* Executive shall serve the Company faithfully and to the best of his ability and shall devote his full working time, attention and efforts to the business of the Company during his employment with the Company hereunder. While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall report to the President and to the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer or to such other person as designated by the Board of Directors of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the “Board”). Executive hereby represents and confirms that he is under no contractual or legal commitments that would prevent him from fulfilling his duties and responsibilities as set forth in this Agreement. During his employment with the Company, Executive shall not accept other employment or engage in other material business activity, except as approved in writing by the Board. Executive may participate in charitable activities and personal investment activities to a reasonable extent, and he may serve as a director of business organizations as approved by the Board, so long as such activities and directorships do not interfere with the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder.

4. *Compensation.*

(a) *Base Salary.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall pay to Executive a base salary at the rate of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$250,000.00) per fiscal year, less deductions and withholdings, which base salary shall be paid in accordance with the Company's normal payroll policies and procedures. If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's base salary may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(b) *Incentive Bonus.* Commencing with the first full fiscal quarter of the Company's 2012 fiscal year and for each full fiscal quarter thereafter that Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be eligible for an annual incentive bonus, to be paid on a quarterly basis, based upon achievement of defined goals established by the Compensation Committee of the Board and in accordance with the terms of any incentive plan of the Company in effect from time to time (the “Incentive Bonus”).

(i) The level of achievement of the objectives each fiscal quarter and the amount payable as Incentive Bonus shall be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee of the Board. Any Incentive Bonus earned for a fiscal quarter shall be paid to Executive in a single lump sum on or before the 74th day following the last day of such fiscal quarter.

(ii) Subject to the achievement of the goals established by the Compensation Committee, as determined by the Compensation Committee, in fiscal year 2012, Executive shall be eligible for an annual target incentive bonus of One Hundred Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$150,000.00). If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's annual target incentive bonus may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(c) *Stock Awards* .

(i) Pursuant to Section 7 of the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Equity Incentive Plan") in place on the Effective Date, on January 8, 2012 the Executive shall be granted a stock bonus award whereby the Executive has the conditional right to receive upon vesting 75,000 shares of the common stock of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Restricted Stock Units"), provided this Agreement has been fully executed by both the Executive and the Company. If it has not been fully executed by January 8, 2012, the Restricted Stock Units will be granted to the Executive on the date it is fully executed.

(ii) The Restricted Stock Units shall vest in three equal installments as follows provided the Executive continues to provide services to the Company, as provided in the Equity Incentive Plan, as follows:

January 7, 2013	25,000
January 7, 2014	25,000
January 7, 2015	25,000

(iii) In the event of a termination of Executive's Employment by the Company other than for Cause (as defined below) or in the event of termination by Executive for Good Reason (as defined below) within 12 months following a Change of Control (as defined below), or prior to a Change of Control at the direction of a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company, the consummation of which will constitute a Change of Control, and contingent upon Executive's execution of a full release of claims in the manner set forth in Section 10(h), all options or stock awards granted under any stock option and stock incentive plans of the Company that are outstanding as of the date of termination shall become immediately vested, and in the case of stock options, shall immediately become exercisable in full and shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (A) two years after termination of Executive's employment by the Company or (B) the option expiration date as set forth in the applicable option agreement.

(iv) A "Change of Control" shall mean that one of the following events has taken place at any time during the Term:

(A) The stockholders of the Company approve one of the following:

(I) Any merger or statutory plan of exchange involving the Company (“Merger”) in which the Company is not the continuing or surviving corporation or pursuant to which the Common Stock, \$0.001 par value (“Common Stock”) would be converted into cash, securities or other property, other than a Merger involving the Company in which the holders of Common Stock immediately prior to the Merger have substantially the same proportionate ownership of common stock of the surviving corporation after the Merger; or

(II) Any sale, lease, exchange, or other transfer (in one transaction or a series of related transactions) of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or the adoption of any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution;

(B) During any period of 12 months or less, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted a majority of the Board of Directors cease for any reason to constitute a majority thereof unless the nomination or election of such new directors was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then still in office who were directors at the beginning of such period;

(C) A tender or exchange offer, other than one made by:

(I) the Company, or by

(II) W. Kent Taylor or any corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity in which W. Kent Taylor (x) owns a direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more or (y) controls 50% or more of the voting power (collectively, the “Taylor Parties”)

is made for the Common Stock (or securities convertible into Common Stock) and such offer results in a portion of those securities being purchased and the offeror after the consummation of the offer is the beneficial owner (as determined pursuant to Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), directly or indirectly, of securities representing in excess of the greater of (a) at least 20 percent of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company or (b) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties; or

(D) Any person other than a Taylor Party becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing in excess of the greater of (i) 20 percent of the aggregate voting power of the outstanding securities of

the Company as disclosed in a report on Schedule 13D of the Exchange Act or (ii) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties.

Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing to the contrary, no Change of Control shall be deemed to have occurred for purposes of this Agreement by virtue of any transaction which results in Executive, or a group of persons which includes Executive, acquiring, directly or indirectly, securities representing 20 percent or more of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company.

(v) A termination by Executive for “Good Reason” shall mean a termination based on:

(A) the assignment to Executive of a different title or job responsibilities that result in a substantial decrease in the level of responsibility from those in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(B) a reduction by the Company or the surviving company in Executive’s base pay as in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(C) a significant reduction by the Company or the surviving company in total benefits available to Executive under cash incentive, stock incentive and other employee benefit plans after the Change of Control compared to the total package of such benefits as in effect prior to the Change of Control;

(D) the requirement by the Company or the surviving company that Executive be based more than 50 miles from where Executive’s office is located immediately prior to the Change of Control, except for required travel on company business to an extent substantially consistent with the business travel obligations which Executive undertook on behalf of the Company prior to the Change of Control; or

(E) the failure by the Company to obtain from any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company (“Successor”) the assent to this Agreement contemplated by Section 13(g) hereof;

which is not cured within 30 days after Executive has delivered written notice of such condition to the Employer. In each case, Executive must give the Company notice of the condition within 90 days of the initial existence of the condition, and the separation from service must occur within a period of time not to exceed two years (or such shorter period as provided herein) following the initial existence of

one or more of the conditions set forth above, or any termination will not be considered to be for Good Reason.

(d) *Benefits.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee benefit plans and programs of the Company that are available to employees generally to the extent that Executive meets the eligibility requirements for each individual plan or program. The Company provides no assurance as to the adoption or continuance of any particular employee benefit plan or program, and Executive's participation in any such plan or program shall be subject to the provisions, rules and regulations applicable thereto.

(e) *Expenses.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall reimburse Executive for all reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket business, travel and entertainment expenses incurred by him in the performance of his duties and responsibilities hereunder, subject to the Company's normal policies and procedures for expense verification and documentation. Any reimbursements made under this Section 4(e) will be paid on or before the last day of the Executive's taxable year following the taxable year in which the expense is incurred.

(f) *Vacations and Holidays .* Executive shall be entitled to be absent from his duties for the Company by reason of vacation for a period of four weeks per fiscal year, or such longer period as the Company allows based on employment tenure with the Company. The Executive's vacation time each fiscal year will accrue in accordance with the Company's normal policies and procedures. Executive shall coordinate his vacation schedule with the Company so as not to impose an undue burden on the Company. In addition, Executive shall be entitled to such national and religious holidays as the Company shall approve for all of its employees from time to time.

(g) *Clawback Provisions.* Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement to the contrary, any incentive based compensation, or any other compensation, paid or payable to Executive pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement or arrangement with the Company which is subject to recovery under any law, government regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement, will be subject to such deductions and clawback (recovery) as may be required to be made pursuant to law, government regulation, order, stock exchange listing requirement (or any policy of the Company adopted pursuant to any such law, government, regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement). Executive specifically authorizes the Company to withhold from his future wages any amounts that may become due under this provision. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Executive's authorization to withhold amounts from future wages that may become due under this provision does not apply and is specifically rescinded in the event of a Change in Control. This section 4(g) shall survive the termination of this Agreement for a period of three (3) years.

5. *Affiliated Entities.* As used in this Agreement, "Company" shall include the Company and each corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity that is controlled by Texas Roadhouse, Inc., or is under common control with the Texas

Roadhouse, Inc. (in each case “control” meaning the direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more of all outstanding equity interests).

6. *Confidential Information; Non-Disparagement.*

(a) Except as required in the performance of Executive’s duties as an employee of the Company or as authorized in writing by the Board, Executive shall not, either during Executive’s employment with the Company or at any time thereafter, use, disclose or make accessible to any person any confidential information for any purpose. “Confidential Information” means information proprietary to the Company or its suppliers or prospective suppliers and not generally known (including trade secret information) about the Company’s suppliers, products, services, personnel, customers, recipes, pricing, sales strategies, technology, computer software code, methods, processes, designs, research, development systems, techniques, finances, accounting, purchasing, and plans. All information disclosed to Executive or to which Executive obtains access, whether originated by Executive or by others, during the period of Executive’s employment by the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term), shall be presumed to be Confidential Information if it is treated by the Company as being Confidential Information or if Executive has a reasonable basis to believe it to be Confidential Information. Executive acknowledges that the above-described knowledge and information constitutes a unique and valuable asset of the Company and represents a substantial investment of time and expense by the Company, and that any disclosure or other use of such knowledge or information other than for the sole benefit of the Company would be wrongful and would cause irreparable harm to the Company. During Executive’s employment with the Company, Executive shall refrain from committing any acts that would materially reduce the value of such knowledge or information to the Company. The foregoing obligations of confidentiality shall not apply to any knowledge or information that (i) is now or subsequently becomes generally publicly known, or (ii) is required to be disclosed by law or legal process, other than as a direct or indirect result of the breach of this Agreement by Executive. Executive acknowledges that the obligations imposed by this Section 6 are in addition to, and not in place of, any obligations imposed by applicable statutory or common law.

(b) Executive shall not at any time during the Term and during the Restricted Period (as defined below), or after the Term disparage the Company, any of its affiliates and any of their respective officers and directors, and shall not, without the prior written consent of the Company, disclose any information he may have learned during employment with the Company, including, but not limited to, any personal or financial information about an officer or director or his or her family member(s).

7. *Noncompetition Covenant.*

(a) *Agreement Not to Compete.* During Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on his own behalf or on behalf of any person or entity other than the Company, including without limitation as a proprietor, principal, agent, partner, officer, director, stockholder, employee, member of any association, consultant or otherwise, engage in any business that is directly competitive with the business of the Company, including without limitation any business that operates one or more full-service, casual dining steakhouse restaurants, within the 50 United States or any foreign country in which the Company is operating or in which the Executive knows the Company contemplates commencing operations during the Restricted Period. The provisions of this Section 7 (a) shall also apply to any business which is directly competitive with any other business which the Company acquires or develops during Executive's employment with the Company.

(b) *Agreement Not to Hire.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, hire, engage or solicit or induce or attempt to induce to cease working for the Company, any person who is then an employee of the Company or who was an employee of the Company during the six (6) month period immediately preceding Executive's termination of employment with the Company.

(c) *Agreement Not to Solicit.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, request, advise, induce or attempt to induce any vendor, supplier or other business contact of the Company to cancel, curtail, cease doing business with, or otherwise adversely change its relationship with the Company.

(d) *Restricted Period.* "Restricted Period" hereunder means the period commencing on the last day of Executive's employment with the Company and ending on the date that is two years following the last day of the Term.

(i) In the event the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement, and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, the Restricted Period will begin on the last day of the Executive's employment with the Company and end on the date the last payment of the current base salary is made to the Executive pursuant to paragraph 10(c).

(e) *Acknowledgment.* Executive hereby acknowledges that the provisions of this Section 7 are reasonable and necessary to protect the legitimate interests of the Company and that any violation of this Section 7 by Executive shall cause substantial and irreparable harm to the Company to such an extent that monetary damages alone would be an inadequate remedy therefor. Therefore, in the event that

Executive violates any provision of this Section 7, the Company shall be entitled to an injunction, in addition to all the other remedies it may have, restraining Executive from violating or continuing to violate such provision.

(f) *Blue Pencil Doctrine.* If the duration of, the scope of or any business activity covered by any provision of this Section 7 is in excess of what is determined to be valid and enforceable under applicable law, such provision shall be construed to cover only that duration, scope or activity that is determined to be valid and enforceable. Executive hereby acknowledges that this Section 7 shall be given the construction that renders its provisions valid and enforceable to the maximum extent, not exceeding its express terms, possible under applicable law.

(g) *Permitted Equity Ownership.* Ownership by Executive, as a passive investment, of less than 2.5% of the outstanding shares of capital stock of any corporation listed on a national securities exchange or publicly traded in the over-the-counter market shall not constitute a breach of this Section 7.

8. *Intellectual Property.*

(a) *Disclosure and Assignment.* As of the Effective Date, Executive hereby transfers and assigns to the Company (or its designee) all right, title, and interest of Executive in and to every idea, concept, invention, and improvement (whether patented, patentable or not) conceived or reduced to practice by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company, and all copyrighted or copyrightable matter created by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while he is employed by the Company that relates to the Company's business (collectively, "Creations"). Executive shall communicate promptly and disclose to the Company, in such form as the Company may request, all information, details, and data pertaining to each Creation. Every copyrightable Creation, regardless of whether copyright protection is sought or preserved by the Company, shall be a "work made for hire" as defined in 17 U.S.C. § 101, and the Company shall own all rights in and to such matter throughout the world, without the payment of any royalty or other consideration to Executive or anyone claiming through Executive.

(b) *Trademarks.* All right, title, and interest in and to any and all trademarks, trade names, service marks, and logos adopted, used, or considered for use by the Company during Executive's employment (whether or not developed by Executive) to identify the Company's business or other goods or services (collectively, the "Marks"), together with the goodwill appurtenant thereto, and all other materials, ideas, or other property conceived, created, developed, adopted, or improved by Executive solely or jointly during Executive's employment by the Company and relating to its business shall be owned exclusively by the Company. Executive shall not have, and will not claim to have, any right, title, or interest of any kind in or to the Marks or such other property.

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(c) *Documentation.* Executive shall execute and deliver to the Company such formal transfers and assignments and such other documents as the Company may request to permit the Company (or its designee) to file and prosecute such registration applications and other documents it deems useful to protect or enforce its rights hereunder. Any idea, invention, copyrightable matter, or other property relating to the Company's business and disclosed by Executive prior to the first anniversary of the effective date of Executive's termination of employment shall be deemed to be governed by the terms of this Section 8 unless proven by Executive to have been first conceived and made after such termination date.

(d) *Non-Applicability.* Executive is hereby notified that this Section 8 does not apply to any invention for which no equipment, supplies, facility, Confidential Information, or other trade secret information of the Company was used and which was developed entirely on Executive's own time, unless (i) the invention relates (A) directly to the business of the Company or (B) to the Company's actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development, or (ii) the invention results from any work performed by Executive for the Company.

9. *Termination of Employment.*

(a) Executive's employment with the Company shall terminate immediately upon:

- (i) Executive's receipt of written notice from the Company of the termination of his employment;
- (ii) the Company's receipt of Executive's written or oral resignation from the Company;
- (iii) Executive's Disability (as defined below); or
- (iv) Executive's death.

(b) The date upon which Executive's termination of employment with the Company occurs shall be the "Termination Date."

Provided that, for purposes of the timing of payments triggered by the Termination Date under Section 10, the Termination Date shall not be considered to have occurred until the date the Executive and the Company reasonably anticipate that (i) Executive will not perform any further services for the Company or any other entity considered a single employer with the Company under Section 414 (b) or (c) of the Internal Revenue Code (but substituting 50% for 80% in the application thereof) (the "Employer Group"), or (ii) the

level of bona fide services Executive will perform for the Employer Group after that date will permanently decrease to less than 20% of the average level of bona fide services performed over the previous 36 months (or if shorter over the duration of service). For this purpose, service performed as an employee or as an independent contractor is

counted, except that service as a member of the board of directors of an Employer Group entity is not counted unless termination benefits under this Employment Agreement are aggregated with benefits under any other Employer Group plan or agreement in which Executive also participates as a director. Executive will not be treated as having a termination of his employment while he is on military leave, sick leave or other bona fide leave of absence if the leave does not exceed six months or, if longer, the period during which Executive has a reemployment right under statute or contract. If a bona fide leave of absence extends beyond six months, Executive's employment will be considered to terminate on the first day after the end of such six month period, or on the day after Executive's statutory or contractual reemployment right lapses, if later. The Company will determine when Executive's Termination Date occurs based on all relevant facts and circumstances, in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h).

10. *Payments upon Termination of Employment.*

(a) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by reason of:

- (i) Executive's abandonment of his employment or Executive's resignation for any reason (whether or not such resignation is set forth in writing or otherwise communicated to the Company);
- (ii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company for Cause (as defined below); or
- (iii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company without Cause following expiration of the Term;

the Company shall pay to Executive his then-current base salary through the Termination Date.

(b) Except in the case of a Change in Control, which is governed by Section 10(c) below, if Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by the Company pursuant to Section 9(a)(i) effective prior to the expiration of the Term for any reason other than for Cause (as defined below), then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Section 10(h) of this Agreement:

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of his then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through

the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and

(iv) \$75,000.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(b)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(ii) shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

(c) If Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, or if the Executive's employment is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason following a Change in Control and before the end of the Term, then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Executive's compliance with Section 10(h) of this Agreement, an amount equal to his then current base salary and incentive bonus through the end of Term of the Agreement, paid in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices, but in no event will the Company pay the Executive less than one year of his current base salary and incentive bonus. At the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(c) may be paid in a lump sum.

(d) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated effective prior to the expiration of the Term by reason of Executive's death or Disability, the Company shall pay to Executive or his beneficiary or his estate, as the case may be;

- (i) his then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of his then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and

- (iv) \$75,000.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(ii) shall be paid to Executive or his estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive or his estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

(e) “Cause” hereunder shall mean:

- (i) an act or acts of dishonesty undertaken by Executive and intended to result in substantial gain or personal enrichment of Executive at the expense of the Company;
- (ii) unlawful conduct or gross misconduct that is willful and deliberate on Executive's part and that, in either event, is materially injurious to the Company;
- (iii) the conviction of Executive of a felony;
- (iv) material and deliberate failure of Executive to perform his duties and responsibilities hereunder or to satisfy his obligations as an officer or employee of the Company, which failure has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company; or
- (v) material breach of any terms and conditions of this Agreement by Executive not caused by the Company, which breach has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company.

(f) “Disability” hereunder shall mean the inability of Executive to perform on a full-time basis the duties and responsibilities of his employment with the Company by reason of his illness or other physical or mental impairment or condition, if

such inability continues for an uninterrupted period of 45 days or more during any 360-day period. A period of inability shall be "uninterrupted" unless and until Executive returns to full-time work for a continuous period of at least 30 days.

(g) In the event of termination of Executive's employment, the sole obligation of the Company hereunder shall be its obligation to make the payments called for by Sections 10(a), 10(b), 10(c) or 10(d) hereof, as the case may be, and the Company shall have no other obligation to Executive or to his beneficiary or his estate, except as otherwise provided by law.

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, the Company shall not be obligated to make any payments under Section 10(b)(ii), (iii) or (iv) or 10(c) of this Agreement unless Executive has signed a full release of claims against the Company, in a form and scope to be prescribed by the Board, all applicable consideration periods and rescission periods provided by law shall have expired, and Executive is in strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement as of the dates of the payments. Executive must execute and deliver such release to the Company on the date set by the Company, which shall be no later than 60 days following Executive's Termination Date, and the release will be delivered by the Company to the Executive at least 21 days before the deadline set for its return.

11. *Return of Property.* Upon termination of Executive's employment with the Company, Executive shall deliver promptly to the Company all records, files, manuals, books, forms, documents, letters, memoranda, data, customer lists, tables, photographs, video tapes, audio tapes, computer disks and other computer storage media, and copies thereof, that are the property of the Company, or that relate in any way to the business, products, services, personnel, customers, prospective customers, suppliers, practices, or techniques of the Company, and all other property of the Company (such as, for example, computers, pagers, credit cards, and keys), whether or not containing Confidential Information, that are in Executive's possession or under Executive's control.

12. *Remedies.* Executive acknowledges that it would be difficult to fully compensate the Company for monetary damages resulting from any breach by him of the provisions of Sections 6, 7, 8, and 11 hereof. Accordingly, in the event of any actual or threatened breach of any such provisions, the Company shall, in addition to any other remedies it may have, be entitled to injunctive and other equitable relief to enforce such provisions, and such relief may be granted without the necessity of proving actual monetary damages.

13. *Miscellaneous.*

(a) *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky without regard to conflict of law principles. Any action relating to this Agreement shall only be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the parties consent to the jurisdiction, venue and convenience of such courts.

(b) *Jurisdiction and Law.* Executive and the Company consent to jurisdiction of the courts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and/or the federal district courts, Western District of Kentucky, for the purpose of resolving all issues of law, equity, or fact, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Any action involving claims of a breach of this Agreement shall be brought in such courts. Each party consents to personal jurisdiction over such party in the state and/or federal courts of Kentucky and hereby waives any defense of lack of personal jurisdiction or *forum non conveniens*. Venue, for the purpose of all such suits, shall be in Jefferson County, Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(c) *Entire Agreement.* Except for any written stock option agreement and related agreements between Executive and the Company, this Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties relating to Executive's employment with the Company and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to such subject matter including without limitation the Prior Employment Agreement, and the parties hereto have made no agreements, representations or warranties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement that are not set forth herein. As of the Effective Date, the Prior Employment Agreement shall terminate and be of no further force or effect; provided, however, any obligations of Executive or the Company arising under the Prior Employment Agreement prior to the Effective Date shall survive such termination.

(d) *No Violation of Other Agreements.* Executive hereby represents and agrees that neither (i) Executive's entering into this Agreement, (ii) Executive's employment with the Company, nor (iii) Executive's carrying out the provisions of this Agreement, will violate any other agreement (oral, written or other) to which Executive is a party or by which Executive is bound.

(e) *Amendments.* No amendment or modification of this Agreement shall be deemed effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

(f) *No Waiver.* No term or condition of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been waived, except by a statement in writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of the waiver is sought. Any written waiver shall not be deemed a continuing waiver unless specifically stated, shall operate only as to the specific term or condition waived and shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition for the future or as to any act other than that specifically waived.

(g) *Assignment.* This Agreement shall not be assignable, in whole or in part, by either party without the prior written consent of the other party, except that the Company may, without the consent of Executive, assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement (i) to any entity with which the Company may merge or consolidate, or (ii) to any corporation or other person or business entity to which the Company may sell or transfer all or substantially all of its assets. Upon Executive's written request, the Company will seek to have any Successor by agreement assent to the fulfillment by the Company of its obligations under this Agreement. After any assignment by the Company pursuant to this Section 13(g), the Company shall be discharged from all further liability

hereunder and such assignee shall thereafter be deemed to be the “Company” for purposes of all terms and conditions of this Agreement, including this Section 13.

(h) *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and such counterparts executed and delivered, each as an original, shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

(i) *Severability.* Subject to Section 7(f) hereof, to the extent that any portion of any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable, it shall be considered deleted herefrom and the remainder of such provision and of this Agreement shall be unaffected and shall continue in full force and effect.

(j) *Survival.* The terms and conditions set forth in Sections 4(g), 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13 of this Agreement, and any other provision that continues by its terms, shall survive expiration of the Term or termination of Executive’s employment for any reason.

(k) *Captions and Headings.* The captions and paragraph headings used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement or any of the provisions hereof.

(l) *Notices .* Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be sufficient if in writing and either delivered in person or sent by first class certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, if to the Company, at the Company’s principal place of business, and if to Executive, at his home address most recently filed with the Company, or to such other address or addresses as either party shall have designated in writing to the other party hereto.

(m) *Six Month Delay .* Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if the Executive is a “specified employee” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(i) (or any successor thereto) on his Termination Date, any payments hereunder that are triggered by termination of employment and which are not exempt as separation pay under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(9) or as short-term deferral pay, shall not begin to be paid until six months after his Termination Date, and at that time, the Executive will receive in one lump sum payment of all the payments that would have otherwise been paid to the Executive during the first six months following the Executive’s Termination Date. The Company shall determine, consistent with any guidance issued under Code Section 409A, the portion of payments that are required to be delayed, if any.

(n) *409A Compliance .* The Executive and the Company agree and confirm that this Employment Agreement is intended by both parties to provide for compensation that is exempt from Code Section 409A as separation pay (up to the Code Section 409A limit) or as a short-term deferral, and to be compliant with Code Section 409A with respect to additional severance compensation and bonus compensation. This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, and administered in accordance with this

agreed intent, provided that the Company does not promise or warrant any tax treatment of compensation hereunder. Executive is responsible for obtaining advice regarding all questions to federal, state, or local income, estate, payroll, or other tax consequences arising from participation herein. This Agreement shall not be amended or terminated in a manner that would accelerate or delay payment of severance pay or bonus pay except as permitted under Treasury Regulations under Code Section 409A.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Executive and the Company have executed this Agreement on this 6th day of January, 2012.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP.

By: /s/ W. Kent Taylor
W. Kent Taylor
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer

G. PRICE COOPER, IV

/s/ G. Price Cooper, IV

**AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
(Jill Marchant)**

THIS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is entered into as of January 8, 2012 by and between TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP., a Kentucky corporation (the “Company”), and JILL MARCHANT, a resident of the Commonwealth of Kentucky (“Executive”).

RECITALS

- A. The Executive is currently employed as the General Counsel of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. pursuant to an Employment Agreement dated August 31, 2011 (the “Existing Employment Agreement”).
- B. Executive and the Company each desire to replace the Existing Employment Agreement with this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the respective agreements of the Company and Executive set forth below, the Company and Executive, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

1. *Effective Date.* The terms and conditions of Executive’s employment hereunder shall become effective January 8, 2012 (the “Effective Date”). The parties agree that the Existing Employment Agreement is superseded and replaced by this Agreement and that the Existing Employment Agreement is of no further force and effect as of the Effective Date.
2. *Employment.* Subject to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Executive’s period of employment under this Agreement shall be the period commencing on the Effective Date and ending on January 7, 2015 (the “Third Anniversary Date”), which term, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, shall be extended on the Anniversary Date and on each anniversary of that date thereafter, for a period of one year thereafter (which term together with any such extensions, if any, shall be hereinafter defined as the “Term”), unless the Executive’s employment terminates earlier in accordance with Section 9 hereof. Thereafter, if Executive continues in the employ of the Company, the employment relationship shall be at will, terminable by either Executive or the Company at any time and for any reason, with or without cause, and subject to such terms and conditions established by the Company from time to time.
3. *Position and Duties.*
 - (a) *Employment with the Company.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be employed as the General Counsel of Texas Roadhouse, Inc., and such other titles as the Company may designate, and shall

perform such duties and responsibilities as the Company shall assign to her from time to time, including duties and responsibilities relating to Texas Roadhouse, Inc.'s wholly-owned and partially owned subsidiaries and other affiliates.

(b) *Performance of Duties and Responsibilities.* Executive shall serve the Company faithfully and to the best of her ability and shall devote her full working time, attention and efforts to the business of the Company during her employment with the Company hereunder. While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall report to the President and to the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer or to such other person as designated by the Board of Directors of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Board"). Executive hereby represents and confirms that she is under no contractual or legal commitments that would prevent her from fulfilling her duties and responsibilities as set forth in this Agreement. During her employment with the Company, Executive shall not accept other employment or engage in other material business activity, except as approved in writing by the Board. Executive may participate in charitable activities and personal investment activities to a reasonable extent, and she may serve as a director of business organizations as approved by the Board, so long as such activities and directorships do not interfere with the performance of her duties and responsibilities hereunder.

4. *Compensation.*

(a) *Base Salary.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall pay to Executive a base salary at the rate of Two Hundred Twenty-five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$225,000.00) per fiscal year, less deductions and withholdings, which base salary shall be paid in accordance with the Company's normal payroll policies and procedures. If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's base salary may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(b) *Incentive Bonus.* Commencing with the first full fiscal quarter of the Company's 2012 fiscal year and for each full fiscal quarter thereafter that Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be eligible for an annual incentive bonus, to be paid on a quarterly basis, based upon achievement of defined goals established by the Compensation Committee of the Board and in accordance with the terms of any incentive plan of the Company in effect from time to time (the "Incentive Bonus").

(i) The level of achievement of the objectives each fiscal quarter and the amount payable as Incentive Bonus shall be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee of the Board. Any Incentive Bonus earned for a fiscal quarter shall be paid to Executive in a single lump sum on or before the 74th day following the last day of such fiscal quarter.

(ii) Subject to the achievement of the goals established by the Compensation Committee, as determined by the Compensation Committee, in fiscal year 2012, Executive shall be eligible for an annual target incentive bonus of One Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00). If the Executive's employment is extended beyond the Third Anniversary Date as provided in Section 2, then on or after the Third Anniversary Date, and annually thereafter, the Executive's annual target incentive bonus may be reviewed by the Compensation Committee of the Board to determine whether it should be increased.

(c) *Stock Awards .*

(i) Pursuant to Section 7 of the Texas Roadhouse, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Equity Incentive Plan ") in place on the Effective Date, on January 8, 2012 the Executive shall be granted a stock bonus award whereby the Executive has the conditional right to receive upon vesting 45,000 shares of the common stock of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Restricted Stock Units "), provided this Agreement has been fully executed by both the Executive and the Company. If it has not been fully executed by January 8, 2012, the Restricted Stock Units will be granted to the Executive on the date it is fully executed.

(ii) The Restricted Stock Units shall vest in three equal installments as follows provided the Executive continues to provide services to the Company, as provided in the Equity Incentive Plan, as follows:

January 7, 2013	15,000
January 7, 2014	15,000
January 7, 2015	15,000

(iii) In the event of a termination of Executive's Employment by the Company other than for Cause (as defined below) or in the event of termination by Executive for Good Reason (as defined below) within 12 months following a Change of Control (as defined below), or prior to a Change of Control at the direction of a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company, the consummation of which will constitute a Change of Control, and contingent upon Executive's execution of a full release of claims in the manner set forth in Section 10(h), all options or stock awards granted under any stock option and stock incentive plans of the Company that are outstanding as of the date of termination shall become immediately vested, and in the case of stock options, shall immediately become exercisable in full and shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (A) two years after termination of Executive's employment by the Company or (B) the option expiration date as set forth in the applicable option agreement.

(iv) A "Change of Control" shall mean that one of the following events has taken place at any time during the Term:

(A) The stockholders of the Company approve one of the following:

(I) Any merger or statutory plan of exchange involving the Company (“Merger”) in which the Company is not the continuing or surviving corporation or pursuant to which the Common Stock, \$0.001 par value (“Common Stock”) would be converted into cash, securities or other property, other than a Merger involving the Company in which the holders of Common Stock immediately prior to the Merger have substantially the same proportionate ownership of common stock of the surviving corporation after the Merger; or

(II) Any sale, lease, exchange, or other transfer (in one transaction or a series of related transactions) of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or the adoption of any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution;

(B) During any period of 12 months or less, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted a majority of the Board of Directors cease for any reason to constitute a majority thereof unless the nomination or election of such new directors was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then still in office who were directors at the beginning of such period;

(C) A tender or exchange offer, other than one made by:

(I) the Company, or by

(II) W. Kent Taylor or any corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity in which W. Kent Taylor (x) owns a direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more or (y) controls 50% or more of the voting power (collectively, the “Taylor Parties”)

is made for the Common Stock (or securities convertible into Common Stock) and such offer results in a portion of those securities being purchased and the offeror after the consummation of the offer is the beneficial owner (as determined pursuant to Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), directly or indirectly, of securities representing in excess of the greater of (a) at least 20 percent of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company or (b) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties; or

(D) Any person other than a Taylor Party becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing in excess of the greater of (i) 20 percent of the aggregate voting power of the outstanding securities of

the Company as disclosed in a report on Schedule 13D of the Exchange Act or (ii) the percentage of the voting power of the outstanding securities of the Company collectively held by all of the Taylor Parties.

Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing to the contrary, no Change of Control shall be deemed to have occurred for purposes of this Agreement by virtue of any transaction which results in Executive, or a group of persons which includes Executive, acquiring, directly or indirectly, securities representing 20 percent or more of the voting power of outstanding securities of the Company.

(v) A termination by Executive for “Good Reason” shall mean a termination based on:

(A) the assignment to Executive of a different title or job responsibilities that result in a substantial decrease in the level of responsibility from those in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(B) a reduction by the Company or the surviving company in Executive’s base pay as in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control;

(C) a significant reduction by the Company or the surviving company in total benefits available to Executive under cash incentive, stock incentive and other employee benefit plans after the Change of Control compared to the total package of such benefits as in effect prior to the Change of Control;

(D) the requirement by the Company or the surviving company that Executive be based more than 50 miles from where Executive’s office is located immediately prior to the Change of Control, except for required travel on company business to an extent substantially consistent with the business travel obligations which Executive undertook on behalf of the Company prior to the Change of Control; or

(E) the failure by the Company to obtain from any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company (“Successor”) the assent to this Agreement contemplated by Section 13(g) hereof;

which is not cured within 30 days after Executive has delivered written notice of such condition to the Employer. In each case, Executive must give the Company notice of the condition within 90 days of the initial existence of the condition, and the separation from service must occur within a period of time not to exceed two years (or such shorter period as provided herein) following the initial existence of

one or more of the conditions set forth above, or any termination will not be considered to be for Good Reason.

(d) *Benefits.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee benefit plans and programs of the Company that are available to employees generally to the extent that Executive meets the eligibility requirements for each individual plan or program. The Company provides no assurance as to the adoption or continuance of any particular employee benefit plan or program, and Executive's participation in any such plan or program shall be subject to the provisions, rules and regulations applicable thereto.

(e) *Expenses.* While Executive is employed by the Company during the Term, the Company shall reimburse Executive for all reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket business, travel and entertainment expenses incurred by her in the performance of her duties and responsibilities hereunder, subject to the Company's normal policies and procedures for expense verification and documentation. Any reimbursements made under this Section 4(e) will be paid on or before the last day of the Executive's taxable year following the taxable year in which the expense is incurred.

(f) *Vacations and Holidays .* Executive shall be entitled to be absent from her duties for the Company by reason of vacation for a period of four weeks per fiscal year, or such longer period as the Company allows based on employment tenure with the Company. The Executive's vacation time each fiscal year will accrue in accordance with the Company's normal policies and procedures. Executive shall coordinate her vacation schedule with the Company so as not to impose an undue burden on the Company. In addition, Executive shall be entitled to such national and religious holidays as the Company shall approve for all of its employees from time to time.

(g) *Clawback Provisions.* Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement to the contrary, any incentive based compensation, or any other compensation, paid or payable to Executive pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement or arrangement with the Company which is subject to recovery under any law, government regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement, will be subject to such deductions and clawback (recovery) as may be required to be made pursuant to law, government regulation, order, stock exchange listing requirement (or any policy of the Company adopted pursuant to any such law, government, regulation, order or stock exchange listing requirement). Executive specifically authorizes the Company to withhold from her future wages any amounts that may become due under this provision. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Executive's authorization to withhold amounts from future wages that may become due under this provision does not apply and is specifically rescinded in the event of a Change in Control. This section 4(g) shall survive the termination of this Agreement for a period of three (3) years.

5. *Affiliated Entities.* As used in this Agreement, "Company" shall include the Company and each corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity that is controlled by Texas Roadhouse, Inc., or is under common control with the Texas

Roadhouse, Inc. (in each case “control” meaning the direct or indirect ownership of 50% or more of all outstanding equity interests).

6. *Confidential Information; Non-Disparagement.*

(a) Except as required in the performance of Executive’s duties as an employee of the Company or as authorized in writing by the Board, Executive shall not, either during Executive’s employment with the Company or at any time thereafter, use, disclose or make accessible to any person any confidential information for any purpose. “Confidential Information” means information proprietary to the Company or its suppliers or prospective suppliers and not generally known (including trade secret information) about the Company’s suppliers, products, services, personnel, customers, recipes, pricing, sales strategies, technology, computer software code, methods, processes, designs, research, development systems, techniques, finances, accounting, purchasing, and plans. All information disclosed to Executive or to which Executive obtains access, whether originated by Executive or by others, during the period of Executive’s employment by the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term), shall be presumed to be Confidential Information if it is treated by the Company as being Confidential Information or if Executive has a reasonable basis to believe it to be Confidential Information. Executive acknowledges that the above-described knowledge and information constitutes a unique and valuable asset of the Company and represents a substantial investment of time and expense by the Company, and that any disclosure or other use of such knowledge or information other than for the sole benefit of the Company would be wrongful and would cause irreparable harm to the Company. During Executive’s employment with the Company, Executive shall refrain from committing any acts that would materially reduce the value of such knowledge or information to the Company. The foregoing obligations of confidentiality shall not apply to any knowledge or information that (i) is now or subsequently becomes generally publicly known, or (ii) is required to be disclosed by law or legal process, other than as a direct or indirect result of the breach of this Agreement by Executive. Executive acknowledges that the obligations imposed by this Section 6 are in addition to, and not in place of, any obligations imposed by applicable statutory or common law.

(b) Executive shall not at any time during the Term and during the Restricted Period (as defined below), or after the Term disparage the Company, any of its affiliates and any of their respective officers and directors, and shall not, without the prior written consent of the Company, disclose any information she may have learned during employment with the Company, including, but not limited to, any personal or financial information about an officer or director or his or her family member(s).

7. *Noncompetition Covenant.*

(a) *Agreement Not to Compete.* During Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on her own behalf or on behalf of any person or entity other than the Company, including without limitation as a proprietor, principal, agent, partner, officer, director, stockholder, employee, member of any association, consultant or otherwise, engage in any business that is directly competitive with the business of the Company, including without limitation any business that operates one or more full-service, casual dining steakhouse restaurants, within the 50 United States or any foreign country in which the Company is operating or in which the Executive knows the Company contemplates commencing operations during the Restricted Period. The provisions of this Section 7 (a) shall also apply to any business which is directly competitive with any other business which the Company acquires or develops during Executive's employment with the Company.

(b) *Agreement Not to Hire.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, hire, engage or solicit or induce or attempt to induce to cease working for the Company, any person who is then an employee of the Company or who was an employee of the Company during the six (6) month period immediately preceding Executive's termination of employment with the Company.

(c) *Agreement Not to Solicit.* Except as required in the performance of Executive's duties as an employee of the Company, during Executive's employment with the Company (whether before, during, or after the Term) and during the Restricted Period, Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit, request, advise, induce or attempt to induce any vendor, supplier or other business contact of the Company to cancel, curtail, cease doing business with, or otherwise adversely change its relationship with the Company.

(d) *Restricted Period.* "Restricted Period" hereunder means the period commencing on the last day of Executive's employment with the Company and ending on the date that is two years following the last day of the Term.

(i) In the event the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement, and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, the Restricted Period will begin on the last day of the Executive's employment with the Company and end on the date the last payment of the current base salary is made to the Executive pursuant to paragraph 10(c).

(e) *Acknowledgment.* Executive hereby acknowledges that the provisions of this Section 7 are reasonable and necessary to protect the legitimate interests of the Company and that any violation of this Section 7 by Executive shall cause substantial and irreparable harm to the Company to such an extent that monetary damages alone would be an inadequate remedy therefor. Therefore, in the event that

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Executive violates any provision of this Section 7, the Company shall be entitled to an injunction, in addition to all the other remedies it may have, restraining Executive from violating or continuing to violate such provision.

(f) *Blue Pencil Doctrine.* If the duration of, the scope of or any business activity covered by any provision of this Section 7 is in excess of what is determined to be valid and enforceable under applicable law, such provision shall be construed to cover only that duration, scope or activity that is determined to be valid and enforceable. Executive hereby acknowledges that this Section 7 shall be given the construction that renders its provisions valid and enforceable to the maximum extent, not exceeding its express terms, possible under applicable law.

(g) *Permitted Equity Ownership.* Ownership by Executive, as a passive investment, of less than 2.5% of the outstanding shares of capital stock of any corporation listed on a national securities exchange or publicly traded in the over-the-counter market shall not constitute a breach of this Section 7.

8. *Intellectual Property.*

(a) *Disclosure and Assignment.* As of the Effective Date, Executive hereby transfers and assigns to the Company (or its designee) all right, title, and interest of Executive in and to every idea, concept, invention, and improvement (whether patented, patentable or not) conceived or reduced to practice by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while she is employed by the Company, and all copyrighted or copyrightable matter created by Executive whether solely or in collaboration with others while she is employed by the Company that relates to the Company's business (collectively, "Creations"). Executive shall communicate promptly and disclose to the Company, in such form as the Company may request, all information, details, and data pertaining to each Creation. Every copyrightable Creation, regardless of whether copyright protection is sought or preserved by the Company, shall be a "work made for hire" as defined in 17 U.S.C. § 101, and the Company shall own all rights in and to such matter throughout the world, without the payment of any royalty or other consideration to Executive or anyone claiming through Executive.

(b) *Trademarks.* All right, title, and interest in and to any and all trademarks, trade names, service marks, and logos adopted, used, or considered for use by the Company during Executive's employment (whether or not developed by Executive)

to identify the Company's business or other goods or services (collectively, the "Marks"), together with the goodwill appurtenant thereto, and all other materials, ideas, or other property conceived, created, developed, adopted, or improved by Executive solely or jointly during Executive's employment by the Company and relating to its business shall be owned exclusively by the Company. Executive shall not have, and will not claim to have, any right, title, or interest of any kind in or to the Marks or such other property.

(c) *Documentation.* Executive shall execute and deliver to the Company such formal transfers and assignments and such other documents as the Company may request to permit the Company (or its designee) to file and prosecute such registration applications and other documents it deems useful to protect or enforce its rights hereunder. Any idea, invention, copyrightable matter, or other property relating to the Company's business and disclosed by Executive prior to the first anniversary of the effective date of Executive's termination of employment shall be deemed to be governed by the terms of this Section 8 unless proven by Executive to have been first conceived and made after such termination date.

(d) *Non-Applicability.* Executive is hereby notified that this Section 8 does not apply to any invention for which no equipment, supplies, facility, Confidential Information, or other trade secret information of the Company was used and which was developed entirely on Executive's own time, unless (i) the invention relates (A) directly to the business of the Company or (B) to the Company's actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development, or (ii) the invention results from any work performed by Executive for the Company.

9. *Termination of Employment.*

(a) Executive's employment with the Company shall terminate immediately upon:

- (i) Executive's receipt of written notice from the Company of the termination of her employment;
- (ii) the Company's receipt of Executive's written or oral resignation from the Company;
- (iii) Executive's Disability (as defined below); or
- (iv) Executive's death.

(b) The date upon which Executive's termination of employment with the Company occurs shall be the "Termination Date."

Provided that, for purposes of the timing of payments triggered by the Termination Date under Section 10, the Termination Date shall not be considered to have occurred until the date the Executive and the Company reasonably anticipate that (i) Executive will not perform any further services for the Company or any other entity considered a single employer with the Company under Section 414 (b) or (c) of the Internal Revenue Code (but substituting 50% for 80% in the application thereof) (the "Employer Group"), or (ii) the level of bona fide services Executive will perform for the Employer Group after that date will permanently decrease to less than 20% of the average level of bona fide services performed over the previous 36 months (or if shorter over the duration of service). For this purpose, service performed as an employee or as an independent contractor is

counted, except that service as a member of the board of directors of an Employer Group entity is not counted unless termination benefits under this Employment Agreement are aggregated with benefits under any other Employer Group plan or agreement in which Executive also participates as a director. Executive will not be treated as having a termination of her employment while she is on military leave, sick leave or other bona fide leave of absence if the leave does not exceed six months or, if longer, the period during which Executive has a reemployment right under statute or contract. If a bona fide leave of absence extends beyond six months, Executive's employment will be considered to terminate on the first day after the end of such six month period, or on the day after Executive's statutory or contractual reemployment right lapses, if later. The Company will determine when Executive's Termination Date occurs based on all relevant facts and circumstances, in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h).

10. *Payments upon Termination of Employment.*

(a) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by reason of:

- (i) Executive's abandonment of her employment or Executive's resignation for any reason (whether or not such resignation is set forth in writing or otherwise communicated to the Company);
- (ii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company for Cause (as defined below); or
- (iii) termination of Executive's employment by the Company without Cause following expiration of the Term;

the Company shall pay to Executive her then-current base salary through the Termination Date.

(b) Except in the case of a Change in Control, which is governed by Section 10(c) below, if Executive's employment with the Company is terminated by the Company pursuant to Section 9(a)(i) effective prior to the expiration of the Term for any reason other than for Cause (as defined below), then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Section 10(h) of this Agreement:

- (i) her then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of her then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through

the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and

- (iv) \$50,000.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(b)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(ii) shall be paid to Executive by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(b)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

(c) If Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause following a Change in Control as defined in this Agreement and before the end of the Term of this Agreement, or if the Executive's employment is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason following a Change in Control and before the end of the Term, then the Company shall pay to Executive, subject to Executive's compliance with Section 10(h) of this Agreement, an amount equal to her then current base salary and incentive bonus through the end of Term of the Agreement, paid in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices, but in no event will the Company pay the Executive less than one year of her current base salary and incentive bonus. At the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(c) may be paid in a lump sum.

(d) If Executive's employment with the Company is terminated effective prior to the expiration of the Term by reason of Executive's death or Disability, the Company shall pay to Executive or her beneficiary or her estate, as the case may be;

- (i) her then-current base salary through the Termination Date;
- (ii) any earned and unpaid annual Incentive Bonus for the fiscal quarter immediately preceding the fiscal quarter in which the Termination Date occurs;
- (iii) the amount of her then current base salary that Executive would have received from the Termination Date through the date that is 180 days following such Termination Date; and

- (iv) \$50,000.00.

Any amount payable to Executive pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) shall be subject to deductions and withholdings and shall be paid to Executive or her estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same periodic installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices commencing on the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law; provided, however, that at the option of the Compensation Committee and if in compliance with Code Section 409A, amounts payable pursuant to Section 10(d)(iii) may be paid in a lump sum. Any amount payable to Executive or her estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(ii) shall be paid to Executive or her estate or beneficiary by the Company in the same manner and at the same time that Incentive Bonus payments are made to current employees of the Company, but no earlier than the first normal payroll date of the Company following the expiration of all applicable rescission periods provided by law. Any amount payable to Executive or her estate or beneficiary pursuant to Section 10(d)(iv) shall be paid in a lump sum.

(e) “Cause” hereunder shall mean:

- (i) an act or acts of dishonesty undertaken by Executive and intended to result in substantial gain or personal enrichment of Executive at the expense of the Company;
- (ii) unlawful conduct or gross misconduct that is willful and deliberate on Executive's part and that, in either event, is materially injurious to the Company;
- (iii) the conviction of Executive of a felony;
- (iv) material and deliberate failure of Executive to perform her duties and responsibilities hereunder or to satisfy her obligations as an officer or employee of the Company, which failure has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company; or
- (v) material breach of any terms and conditions of this Agreement by Executive not caused by the Company, which breach has not been cured by Executive within ten days after written notice thereof to Executive from the Company.

(f) “Disability” hereunder shall mean the inability of Executive to perform on a full-time basis the duties and responsibilities of her employment with the Company by reason of her illness or other physical or mental impairment or condition, if

such inability continues for an uninterrupted period of 45 days or more during any 360-day period. A period of inability shall be "uninterrupted" unless and until Executive returns to full-time work for a continuous period of at least 30 days.

(g) In the event of termination of Executive's employment, the sole obligation of the Company hereunder shall be its obligation to make the payments called for by Sections 10(a), 10(b), 10(c) or 10(d) hereof, as the case may be, and the Company shall have no other obligation to Executive or to her beneficiary or her estate, except as otherwise provided by law.

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, the Company shall not be obligated to make any payments under Section 10(b)(ii), (iii) or (iv) or 10(c) of this Agreement unless Executive has signed a full release of claims against the Company, in a form and scope to be prescribed by the Board, all applicable consideration periods and rescission periods provided by law shall have expired, and Executive is in strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement as of the dates of the payments. Executive must execute and deliver such release to the Company on the date set by the Company, which shall be no later than 60 days following Executive's Termination Date, and the release will be delivered by the Company to the Executive at least 21 days before the deadline set for its return.

11. *Return of Property.* Upon termination of Executive's employment with the Company, Executive shall deliver promptly to the Company all records, files, manuals, books, forms, documents, letters, memoranda, data, customer lists, tables, photographs, video tapes, audio tapes, computer disks and other computer storage media, and copies thereof, that are the property of the Company, or that relate in any way to the business, products, services, personnel, customers, prospective customers, suppliers, practices, or techniques of the Company, and all other property of the Company (such as, for example, computers, pagers, credit cards, and keys), whether or not containing Confidential Information, that are in Executive's possession or under Executive's control.

12. *Remedies.* Executive acknowledges that it would be difficult to fully compensate the Company for monetary damages resulting from any breach by her of the provisions of Sections 6, 7, 8, and 11 hereof. Accordingly, in the event of any actual or threatened breach of any such provisions, the Company shall, in addition to any other remedies it may have, be entitled to injunctive and other equitable relief to enforce such provisions, and such relief may be granted without the necessity of proving actual monetary damages.

13. *Miscellaneous.*

(a) *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by, subject to, and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky without regard to conflict of law principles. Any action relating to this Agreement shall only be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the parties consent to the jurisdiction, venue and convenience of such courts.

(b) *Jurisdiction and Law.* Executive and the Company consent to jurisdiction of the courts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and/or the federal district courts, Western District of Kentucky, for the purpose of resolving all issues of law, equity, or fact, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Any action involving claims of a breach of this Agreement shall be brought in such courts. Each party consents to personal jurisdiction over such party in the state and/or federal courts of Kentucky and hereby waives any defense of lack of personal jurisdiction or *forum non conveniens*. Venue, for the purpose of all such suits, shall be in Jefferson County, Commonwealth of Kentucky.

(c) *Entire Agreement.* Except for any written stock option agreement and related agreements between Executive and the Company, this Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties relating to Executive's employment with the Company and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to such subject matter including without limitation the Prior Employment Agreement, and the parties hereto have made no agreements, representations or warranties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement that are not set forth herein. As of the Effective Date, the Prior Employment Agreement shall terminate and be of no further force or effect; provided, however, any obligations of Executive or the Company arising under the Prior Employment Agreement prior to the Effective Date shall survive such termination.

(d) *No Violation of Other Agreements.* Executive hereby represents and agrees that neither (i) Executive's entering into this Agreement, (ii) Executive's employment with the Company, nor (iii) Executive's carrying out the provisions of this Agreement, will violate any other agreement (oral, written or other) to which Executive is a party or by which Executive is bound.

(e) *Amendments.* No amendment or modification of this Agreement shall be deemed effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

(f) *No Waiver.* No term or condition of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been waived, except by a statement in writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of the waiver is sought. Any written waiver shall not be deemed a continuing waiver unless specifically stated, shall operate only as to the specific term or condition waived and shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition for the future or as to any act other than that specifically waived.

(g) *Assignment.* This Agreement shall not be assignable, in whole or in part, by either party without the prior written consent of the other party, except that the Company may, without the consent of Executive, assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement (i) to any entity with which the Company may merge or consolidate, or (ii) to any corporation or other person or business entity to which the Company may sell or transfer all or substantially all of its assets. Upon Executive's written request, the Company will seek to have any Successor by agreement assent to the fulfillment by the Company of its obligations under this Agreement. After any assignment by the Company pursuant to this Section 13(g), the Company shall be discharged from all further liability

hereunder and such assignee shall thereafter be deemed to be the “Company” for purposes of all terms and conditions of this Agreement, including this Section 13.

(h) *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and such counterparts executed and delivered, each as an original, shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

(i) *Severability.* Subject to Section 7(f) hereof, to the extent that any portion of any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable, it shall be considered deleted herefrom and the remainder of such provision and of this Agreement shall be unaffected and shall continue in full force and effect.

(j) *Survival.* The terms and conditions set forth in Sections 4(g), 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13 of this Agreement, and any other provision that continues by its terms, shall survive expiration of the Term or termination of Executive’s employment for any reason.

(k) *Captions and Headings.* The captions and paragraph headings used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement or any of the provisions hereof.

(l) *Notices .* Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be sufficient if in writing and either delivered in person or sent by first class certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, if to the Company, at the Company’s principal place of business, and if to Executive, at her home address most recently filed with the Company, or to such other address or addresses as either party shall have designated in writing to the other party hereto.

(m) *Six Month Delay .* Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if the Executive is a “specified employee” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(i) (or any successor thereto) on her Termination Date, any payments hereunder that are triggered by termination of employment and which are not exempt as separation pay under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(9) or as short-term deferral pay, shall not begin to be paid until six months after her Termination Date, and at that time, the Executive will receive in one lump sum payment of all the payments that would have otherwise been paid to the Executive during the first six months following the Executive’s Termination Date. The Company shall determine, consistent with any guidance issued under Code Section 409A, the portion of payments that are required to be delayed, if any.

(n) *409A Compliance .* The Executive and the Company agree and confirm that this Employment Agreement is intended by both parties to provide for compensation that is exempt from Code Section 409A as separation pay (up to the Code Section 409A limit) or as a short-term deferral, and to be compliant with Code Section 409A with respect to additional severance compensation and bonus compensation. This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed, and administered in accordance with this

agreed intent, provided that the Company does not promise or warrant any tax treatment of compensation hereunder. Executive is responsible for obtaining advice regarding all questions to federal, state, or local income, estate, payroll, or other tax consequences arising from participation herein. This Agreement shall not be amended or terminated in a manner that would accelerate or delay payment of severance pay or bonus pay except as permitted under Treasury Regulations under Code Section 409A.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Executive and the Company have executed this Agreement on this 6th day of January, 2012.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE MANAGEMENT CORP.

By: /s/ W. Kent Taylor
W. Kent Taylor
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer

JILL MARCHANT

/s/ Jill Marchant

LIST OF SUBSIDIARIES OF TEXAS ROADHOUSE, INC.
(as of December 27, 2011)

I. SUBSIDIARIES WHOLLY-OWNED BY TEXAS ROADHOUSE, INC.

NAME OF ENTITY	FORM OF ENTITY
Armadillo, Inc.	Colorado corporation
Aspen Creek Beverage Corp. (indirect)	Texas corporation
Aspen Creek, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Roadhouse-Creek of NJ, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse Development Corporation	Kentucky corporation
Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse Management Corp.	Kentucky corporation

II. SUBSIDIARIES WHOLLY-OWNED BY TEXAS ROADHOUSE HOLDINGS LLC

NAME OF ENTITY	FORM OF ENTITY
Roadhouse Enterprises, Inc.	Texas corporation
Roadhouse Private Club of Pelham, Inc.	Alabama corporation
Texas Roadhouse Delaware LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse Louisville I LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Boise, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Cedar Falls, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Cheyenne, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Decatur, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Dixie Highway, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of East Peoria, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Elkhart, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Elyria, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Fort Wayne, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Grand Junction, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Kansas, LLC	Kansas limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Lancaster, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Lansing, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Lynchburg, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Reno, NV, LLC	Nevada limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Richmond, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Roseville, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Vermont Intermediate Holdings, LLC	Vermont limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Vermont, LLC (indirect)	Vermont limited liability company

III. PARTIALLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARIES

NAME OF ENTITY	FORM OF ENTITY
Texas Roadhouse of Baytown, TX, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Gilbert, AZ, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Hendersonville, de Novo, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Huber Heights, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Jacksonville, NC, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Lancaster OH, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Menifee, CA, LLC	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Parker, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company

Texas Roadhouse of Stillwater, OK, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Warwick, LLC (1)	Kentucky limited liability company
Texas Roadhouse of Austin, Ltd. (1)	Kentucky limited partnership
Texas Roadhouse of Austin-North, Ltd. (1)	Kentucky limited partnership
Texas Roadhouse of Mansfield, Ltd. (1)	Kentucky limited partnership
TRH Beverages of Austin-South, LLC (2)	Texas limited liability company
TRH Beverages of Austin-North, LLC (3)	Texas limited liability company
TRH Beverages of Mansfield, LLC (4)	Texas limited liability company

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- (1) Ownership interests held by Texas Roadhouse Holdings LLC
 - (2) Ownership interests held by Texas Roadhouse of Austin, Ltd.
 - (3) Ownership interests held by Texas Roadhouse of Austin-North, Ltd.
 - (4) Ownership interests held by Texas Roadhouse of Mansfield, Ltd.
-

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors
Texas Roadhouse, Inc.:

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statements (No. 333-121241) on Form S-8 and (No. 333-133510) on Form S-3 of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. of our reports dated February 24, 2012, with respect to the consolidated balance sheets of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 27, 2011 and December 28, 2010, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity and comprehensive income, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 27, 2011, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 27, 2011, which reports appear in the December 27, 2011 annual report on Form 10-K of Texas Roadhouse, Inc.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Louisville, Kentucky
February 24, 2012

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[Exhibit 23.1](#)

[Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm](#)

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF SARBANES-OXLEY ACT**

I, W. Kent Taylor, certify that:

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

Date: February 24, 2012

By: /s/ W. KENT TAYLOR

W. Kent Taylor
Chief Executive Officer

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Exhibit 31.1

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF SARBANES-OXLEY ACT

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF SARBANES-OXLEY ACT**

I, G. Price Cooper, IV, certify that:

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

Date: February 24, 2012

By: /s/ G. PRICE COOPER, IV

G. Price Cooper, IV
Chief Financial Officer

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF SARBANES-OXLEY ACT

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350**

I, W. Kent Taylor, Chief Executive Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Company"), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

(1) The Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 27, 2011 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

(2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: February 24, 2012

By: /s/ W. KENT TAYLOR

W. Kent Taylor
Chief Executive Officer

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[Exhibit 32.1](#)

[CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350](#)

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350**

I, G. Price Cooper, IV, Chief Financial Officer of Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (the "Company"), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

- (1) The Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 27, 2011 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: February 24, 2012

By: /s/ G. PRICE COOPER, IV

G. Price Cooper, IV
Chief Financial Officer

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Exhibit 32.2

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350