

SB FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.  
Form DEF 14A  
March 09, 2018

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

**SB Financial Group, Inc.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i) (1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

**2018 Proxy Statement**

**SB FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.**

**401 Clinton Street**

**Defiance, Ohio 43512**

**(419) 783-8950**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

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Defiance, Ohio

March 9, 2018

Dear Shareholders:

The 34th Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the “Annual Meeting”) of SB Financial Group, Inc. (“SB Financial”) will be held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 10:30 a.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, for the following purposes:

1. To elect three (3) directors, each to serve for a term of three years.
2. To ratify the appointment of BKD, LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of SB Financial for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.
3. To consider and vote upon a non-binding advisory resolution to approve the compensation of SB Financial’s named executive officers.
4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting and any adjournment(s) thereof.

**Your Board of Directors recommends that you vote “FOR” the election as SB Financial directors of the nominees listed in SB Financial’s proxy statement for the Annual Meeting, and “FOR” Proposals 2 and 3.**

This year's Annual Meeting will again be held "virtually" through a live webcast. Shareholders will be able to vote and submit questions by visiting **SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com** and participating live in the webcast. A secure control number that will allow you to participate in the meeting electronically can be found on the enclosed proxy card.

Shareholders of record at the close of business on February 22, 2018 are entitled to receive notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting and any adjournment(s) thereof. All shareholders are cordially invited to participate in the Annual Meeting. Whether or not you plan to participate in the Annual Meeting virtually, it is important that your Common Shares be represented. Accordingly, you are encouraged to vote electronically via the Internet in advance of the Annual Meeting in accordance with the instructions on the enclosed proxy card. Alternatively, please fill in, date, sign and return your proxy card promptly.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Mark A. Klein  
Mark A. Klein

Chairman, President & CEO

SB Financial Group, Inc.

**SB FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.**

401 Clinton Street

**Defiance, Ohio 43512**

**(419) 783-8950**

**PROXY STATEMENT FOR**

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

**TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

This proxy statement and related materials are being made available to shareholders of SB Financial Group, Inc. (the “Company”, “SB Financial” or “SBFG”) in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of the Company (the “Board”) for use at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the “Annual Meeting”) to be held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 10:30 a.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, and at any adjournment(s) thereof. The Annual Meeting will be hosted at the Company’s headquarters located at 401 Clinton St. Defiance, Ohio 43512, and will be held “virtually” through a live webcast at **SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com**. Shareholders may attend the Annual Meeting in person or may participate by accessing the Annual Meeting online, voting their shares electronically and submitting questions online during the meeting. To participate in the live webcast of the Annual Meeting, you will need your unique control number, which is provided on your proxy card, to enter the meeting.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS**

**FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON APRIL 18, 2018**

**The Company’s Notice of Annual Meeting, this proxy statement, and the Company’s Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, are each available at <http://www1.snl.com/irweblinkx/FinancialDocs.aspx?iid=101021>.**

**Copies of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the 2017 fiscal year may be obtained at the Company's website at [www.YourSBFinancial.com](http://www.YourSBFinancial.com) by first clicking, "Corporate Governance" and then "SEC Filings". Or, you can obtain paper copies, without charge, by sending a written request to: Anthony V. Cosentino, Chief Financial Officer, SB Financial Group, Inc., 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, OH 43512.**

The Company is furnishing proxy materials for the Annual Meeting over the Internet to certain shareholders of the Company, who will receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials instead of paper copies of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders, this proxy statement, the form of proxy card and the Company's Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 (the "2017 fiscal year"), which includes the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for the 2017 fiscal year (the "Annual Report"). The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials contains instructions on how to access the Company's proxy materials over the Internet and how shareholders can receive a paper copy of the proxy materials. **Shareholders who receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials are reminded that the Notice is not itself a proxy card.**

On or about March 9, 2018, the Company will mail to all holders of record of common shares of the Company ("Common Shares") as of February 22, 2018 (the "Record Date") either (1) a copy of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders, this proxy statement, the form of proxy card and the Annual Report, or (2) a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, which will indicate how to access the Company's proxy materials on the Internet.

Only holders of record of the 6,528,520 Common Shares of the Company eligible to vote as of the Record Date are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. Each such holder is entitled to one vote for each Common Share held as of the Record Date with respect to all matters acted upon at the Annual Meeting. The shares represented by all properly executed proxies submitted to the Company will be voted as designated. Each person giving a proxy may revoke it at any time before it is voted at the Annual meeting by giving written notice of revocation to the Secretary of the Company at the address listed above, or giving notice of revocation at the meeting. The last-dated proxy you submit by any means will supersede any previously submitted proxy. If your Common Shares are held in "street name" and you have instructed your broker, financial institution or other nominee to vote your Common Shares, you must follow directions received from your broker, financial institution or other nominee to change your vote.

Annually, the Company provides each registered shareholder at a shared address, not previously notified, with a separate notice of the Company's intention to "household" proxy materials. Only one copy of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders and this proxy statement, or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, is being delivered to previously notified multiple registered shareholders who share an address unless the Company has received contrary instructions from one or more of the shareholders. Registered shareholders who share an address and would like to receive a separate copy of the Annual Report, this proxy statement and/or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials delivered to them, or have questions regarding the householding process, may contact Investor Relations by calling 419-785-3663, or by forwarding a written request addressed to SB Financial Group, Inc., Attention: Investor Relations, Anthony V. Cosentino, 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512. Promptly upon receipt of a request, an additional copy of the Annual Report, this proxy statement and/or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, will be sent. By contacting Investor Relations, registered shareholders sharing an address can also (i) notify the Company that the registered shareholders wish to receive separate annual reports to shareholders, proxy statements or Notices of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, in the

future or (ii) request delivery of a single copy of annual reports to shareholders, proxy statements or Notices of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, in the future if they are receiving multiple copies. Beneficial shareholders, who hold Common Shares through a broker, financial institution or other nominee, should contact their broker, financial institution or other nominee for specific information on the householding process as it applies to their accounts.



## **VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION**

Again this year, we will be hosting a virtual Annual Meeting. Shareholders will be able to participate in the Annual Meeting online via live webcast. Provided below is the summary of the information that you will need to participate in the Annual Meeting:

Shareholders can participate in the Annual Meeting via live webcast over the Internet at [SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com](http://SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com).

You will need your unique control number, which is provided on your proxy card, to enter the Annual Meeting.

The webcast of the Annual Meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, on April 18, 2018.

Shareholders will have the ability to vote and submit questions during the Annual Meeting webcast.

Instructions as to how to participate via the Internet, including how to verify stock ownership, are available at [SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com](http://SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com).

If you have questions regarding how to participate via the Internet, you may call Anthony V. Cosentino at 419-785-3663.

Replay of the Annual Meeting webcast will be available until April 17, 2019.

We will be hosting the virtual Annual Meeting at our headquarters located 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512, and shareholders may attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person if they so choose.

## **VOTING INFORMATION**

Whether or not you plan to participate in the Annual Meeting, you may ensure your representation by voting your Common Shares by one of the following methods:

by submitting a traditional paper proxy card;

by submitting a proxy via the Internet prior to the Annual Meeting; or

by participating in the Annual Meeting online and voting electronically during the meeting, or by attending the Annual Meeting at 401 Clinton St., Defiance, Ohio and voting in person.

**Submitting a Proxy via the Internet.** You may submit a proxy via the Internet by following the instructions set forth on the form of proxy card or the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. If your Common Shares are registered in the name of a broker, financial institution or other nominee (*i.e.*, you hold your Common Shares in “street name”), your nominee may allow you to submit a proxy via the Internet. In that case, the voting form your nominee sent you will provide instructions for submitting your proxy via the Internet. For shareholders whose Common Shares are registered in the name of a broker, financial institution or other nominee, please consult the instructions provided by your nominee for information about the deadline for submitting a proxy via the Internet.

**Voting at the Annual Meeting.** If you participate in the live webcast of the Annual Meeting, you will have the opportunity to vote your Common Shares electronically during the Annual Meeting webcast. Shareholders can participate in the Annual Meeting via live webcast and vote electronically over the Internet at **[SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com](http://SBFG.onlineshareholdermeeting.com)**.

In accordance with Company policy, proxy cards, ballots and voting instructions that identify individual shareholders will be kept confidential. Exceptions to this policy, however, may be necessary in limited instances to comply with applicable legal requirements and, in the event of a contested proxy solicitation, to verify the validity of proxies presented by any person and the results of the voting.

### **Quorum Requirement for the Annual Meeting**

Under the Company's Amended and Restated Regulations (the "Regulations"), a quorum is a majority of the Common Shares outstanding. Holders of Common Shares may be present in person via participation in the online webcast or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Both abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted as being present for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum.

In general, broker non-votes occur when Common Shares held by a broker for a beneficial owner are not voted with respect to a particular proposal because the broker has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner and the broker lacks discretionary authority to vote such Common Shares on the proposal(s). Brokers have discretionary authority to vote their customers' Common Shares on "routine" proposals, even if they do not receive voting instructions from their customers. Brokers cannot, however, vote their customers' Common Shares on "non-routine" matters without instructions from their customers. Pursuant to applicable stock exchange rules, the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal No. 2) is the only routine matter. The election of directors and each of the other Proposals are considered non-routine matters and, therefore, your broker may vote on these matters only if you provide voting instructions.

### **Cost of Proxy Solicitation**

The Company will bear the costs of preparing, printing and delivering this proxy statement, the form of proxy card and any other related materials, as well as all other costs incurred in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board (other than the Internet usage charges incurred if a shareholder appoints a proxy electronically). Proxies will be solicited by U.S. mail and electronic mail and may be further solicited, for no additional compensation, by officers, directors or employees of the Company and its subsidiaries by further mailing and/or electronic mail, by telephone or by personal contact. The Company will also pay the standard charges and expenses of brokers, voting trustees, financial institutions and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries who are record holders of Common Shares not beneficially owned by them, for forwarding materials to and obtaining proxies from the beneficial owners of Common Shares entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

**Your Vote Is Important. Your prompt cooperation in voting your Common Shares is greatly appreciated.**

**PROPOSAL NO. 1**

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

In accordance with the Regulations of the Company, three directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting for terms of three years. The Board proposes that each of the three director nominees identified below be re-elected for a new term of three years expiring in 2021. Each of these nominees was approved by the Board upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committee.

Each individual elected as a director at the Annual Meeting will hold office for a term of three years and until his or her successor is elected and qualified, or until his or her earlier resignation, removal from office or death. Pursuant to the procedures set forth under the Regulations and Ohio law, the three nominees who receive the greatest number of votes will be elected as directors of the Company. Common Shares represented by properly submitted proxies will be voted ***FOR*** the election of the Board's nominees unless authority to vote for one or more nominees is withheld. Shareholders may withhold authority to vote for the entire slate as nominated or may withhold the authority to vote for one or more nominees. Common Shares as to which the authority to vote is withheld will be counted for quorum purposes, but will not be counted toward the election of directors or toward the election of the individual nominees for whom the authority to vote has been withheld. If a nominee who would otherwise receive the required number of votes becomes unavailable or unable to serve as a director for any reason, the individuals designated as proxy holders reserve full discretion to vote the Common Shares represented by the proxies they hold for the election of the remaining nominees and for the election of any substitute nominee designated by the Board. The Board has no reason to believe that any of the nominees named below will not serve if elected.

The Board of Directors proposes the election of the following persons, all of whom were recommended by the Governance and Nominating Committee, to terms that will expire in 2021:

Name	Age	Position(s) Held	Director Since
George W. Carter	58	Director, SBFG and State Bank	2013
Tom R. Helberg	58	Director, SBFG and State Bank	2018
Timothy J. Stolly	59	Director, SBFG and State Bank	2010

**YOUR BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT SHAREHOLDERS**

**VOTE FOR THE ELECTION OF ALL OF THE BOARD'S NOMINEES**

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The following directors will continue to serve after the Annual Meeting for the terms indicated:

Name	Age	Position(s) Held	Director Since	Term Expires
Robert A. Fawcett, Jr.	76	Director, SBFG and State Bank	1992	2020
Gaylyn J. Finn	69	Director, SBFG and State Bank	2010	2020
Richard L. Hardgrove	79	Lead Independent Director, SBFG, State Bank and RDSI	2004	2019
Rita A. Kissner	72	Director, SBFG, State Bank and RDSI	2004	2020
Mark A. Klein	63	Director, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, SBFG, State Bank and RDSI	2010	2019
William G. Martin	51	Director, SBFG and State Bank	2014	2019

There are no family relationships among any of the directors, nominees for election as directors and executive officers of the Company.

The following gives certain information, as of the record date, concerning each nominee for election as a director of the Company and each director whose term will continue after the Annual Meeting. The following also provides an overview of certain specific skills that qualify each of our current directors and director nominees to serve as a director or to be nominated for re-election as a director. Unless otherwise indicated, each person has held his or her principal occupation for more than five years.

**Mr. Carter** has over 30 years of experience in the utility industry. He currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative, an electric utility serving Ohio and Indiana, and has held that position since 2005. Mr. Carter also serves as a Director of Buckeye Power Inc., an electric generation company that has assets of \$2 billion, and serves as Chairman on the Load Management Committee and also serves on the Executive and Audit Committees. He also serves as a director of United Utility Supply, a materials supply company. Mr. Carter is an active member of his community, currently serving on the board of the Kiwanis and formerly served as a board member of the United Way of Paulding County. He also serves on the board of the Regional Growth Partnership, Toledo, OH. Mr. Carter was appointed to the Boards of Directors of the Company and State Bank in 2013. He currently serves on the Compensation and Loan Review Committees.

**Mr. Fawcett** has owned and operated a medium-sized insurance business for over 30 years. He brings entrepreneurial and business leadership to the Board. He also has significant board service experience, having served on the boards of directors of numerous for-profit and non-profit organizations. Mr. Fawcett currently serves as a director of the Putnam County DD Housing Board and the Putnam County YMCA Board. Mr. Fawcett has been a director of the Company and State Bank since 1992. He currently serves on the Governance and Compensation Committees.

**Mr. Finn** brings to the Board an extensive financial and risk management background. He served as Treasurer and Associate Vice President for Finance for Bowling Green State University until 2008. While serving at Bowling Green State University, Mr. Finn was responsible for receipts, disbursement, financial reporting and investing functions of the university as well as the risk management function. He is a holder of a CPA certificate (currently inactive) and previously worked for a large public accounting firm. Mr. Finn also served as a corporate controller for seven years. He has over thirty-three years' experience as a financial executive in the for-profit and non-profit arenas. He currently serves as trustee of the Wood County Hospital while providing leadership as past Chairman in 2014 and 2015. He also serves on the finance committee of The Cocoon Shelter, a non-profit organization. Mr. Finn's experience in finance has qualified him as an "audit committee financial expert" under SEC guidelines. He currently is the Chairman of the Audit Committee and also serves on the Board's Loan Review Committee.

**Mr. Hardgrove** brings an extensive background in finance and financial institution management. He has over 50 years of banking experience, during which he served as the CEO of three different banks with assets of \$500 million to \$5 billion, as well as serving 16 years as the CEO of a bank holding company. As CEO of financial institutions, he led these financial institutions through a number of successful mergers. Mr. Hardgrove also formerly served as the Deputy Superintendent of Banks for the State of Ohio. He has served as a bank director for 38 years. Mr. Hardgrove currently serves as Lead Independent Director of each of the Company, State Bank and RDSI. He is a member of the Compensation Committee and the Governance and Nominating Committee.

**Mr. Helberg** has extensive knowledge and experience in real estate law. He is of counsel specializing in real estate related matters at a firm in Toledo, OH. He is also the General Manager, Legal Counsel and Principal of a commercial real estate development and investment company since 1984. Mr. Helberg has significant board service experience having served on the boards of directors of numerous for-profit and non-profit organizations. Prior to his appointment to the Board of the Company and State Bank, Mr. Helberg served on State Bank Toledo Advisory Board. He currently is a member of the Toledo, OH and American Bar Associations, a Director of the Toledo Hospital Foundation Board and member and former Chairman of the Sylvania Township Board of Zoning Appeal. Mr. Helberg formerly served on the Board of Directors of two mid-west Ohio banks. Mr. Helberg was appointed as a director of the Company and State Bank in February 2018 and is a member of the Audit and Compensation Committees.

**Ms. Kissner** has broad knowledge of finance and leadership in local government. Her diverse professional background includes having served as Mayor of Defiance, a mid-sized Northwest Ohio town, as well as finance director and auditor. She exercised her leadership skills as the former Main Street Director of the Defiance Development and Visitors Bureau, and she also currently serves as a trustee and past Board Chair of Defiance

College. Ms. Kissner currently serves on the Audit Committee and is Chairperson of the Board's Compensation Committee.

**Mr. Klein** brings to the Board extensive experience in the financial services industry. He has served as the President and CEO of State Bank since 2006, and as President and CEO of the Company since 2010. Mr. Klein currently serves as Chairman of each of the Company, State Bank and RDSI. Prior to joining the Company and State Bank, Mr. Klein was Senior Vice President Private Banking of Sky Bank, Toledo, Ohio from 2004 to January 2006, and Vice President and Team Leader of Sky Bank, Toledo, Ohio from 2000 to 2004. From 1994 to 1999, Mr. Klein was Executive Vice President and Senior Lender at a \$450 million Sky Bank affiliate. Mr. Klein is the Chairman of the ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital Board and serves on the Toledo Promedica Board of Trustees. In 2017, Mr. Klein completed his fifth four-year term as a board member of the Defiance City Schools while providing leadership as past president in 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016. Mr. Klein was also appointed by Governor Kasich in 2013 to serve the banking industry as a member of the State of Ohio Banking Commission. In 2015, he was appointed to the Defiance College Board of Trustees. In March 2017, Mr. Klein was appointed to the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland's Fourth District, Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council (CDIAC). The CDIAC provides insight to the Cleveland Reserve Bank from the prospective of community depository institutions. Mr. Klein is active in his community including his involvement in Defiance 2100; a diverse group of community leaders driving economic progress. He is also a past member of the Defiance Area Foundation and Defiance City School Foundation.

**Mr. Martin** has extensive background in finance and leadership within his community. He has over 30 years' experience in finance and has been a certified public accountant since 1993 (currently inactive). He started his career at a "Big 8" accounting firm and held the position of Controller at a furniture company. Mr. Martin is currently President and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Spangler Candy Company, a 112 year old family-owned private candy making company headquartered in Bryan, Ohio where he has been employed for the past 19 years. As President and CFO, Mr. Martin is responsible for the overall strategic and tactical direction of Spangler Candy Company as well as the accomplishment of stated objectives in addition to being responsible for finance, accounting, Information Technology, Human Resources, supply chain, IT, logistics and purchasing. Mr. Martin is very community involved serving as past treasurer of the Bryan Athletic Boosters and is currently serving as Chairman of the Bryan Area Foundation. Mr. Martin was appointed as a director of the Company and State Bank in 2014. Mr. Martin currently serves on the Governance and Nominating Committee.

**Mr. Stolly** brings to the Board over 39 years' experience in the insurance industry, as well as a strong sales and services background as a true entrepreneur with a strong business acumen. Mr. Stolly is very community involved. He currently is President of the Lima Interfaith Senior Housing, past President of the Shawnee Country Club and serves on the board of Heat Treat Technology, Inc. He currently is Chairman of the Board's Governance and Nominating Committee and serves on the Company's Audit Committee.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

### **Director Independence**

The Board has reviewed, considered and discussed each director's relationships, both direct and indirect, with the Company and its subsidiaries, including those described under the heading "**TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS**" beginning on page 25 of this proxy statement. As part of its review, the Board has considered and discussed the compensation and other payments, if any, each director has, both directly and indirectly, received from or made to the Company and its subsidiaries in order to determine whether such director qualifies as independent based on the definition of an "independent director" set forth in Rule 5605(a)(2) of the Marketplace Rules of The NASDAQ Stock Market ("NASDAQ").

The Board has affirmatively determined that the Board has at least a majority of independent directors, and that each of the following individuals who currently serve as directors, or who served as a director of the Company during the 2017 fiscal year, has and had no financial or personal relationships, either directly or indirectly, with the Company or its subsidiaries (other than compensation as a director of the Company and its subsidiaries, banking relationships in the ordinary course of business with the Company's banking subsidiaries and ownership of the Company's Common Shares as described in this proxy statement) and thus qualifies as an "independent director" under NASDAQ Marketplace Rule 5605(a)(2): George W. Carter, Gary M. Cates, Robert A. Fawcett, Jr., Gaylyn J. Finn, Richard L.



Hardgrove, Tom R. Helberg, Rita A. Kissner, William G. Martin and Timothy J. Stolly. The Board has determined that Mark A. Klein does not qualify as an independent director because he currently serves as an executive officer of the Company and certain of its subsidiaries.

### **Director Qualifications and Review of Director Nominees**

To fulfill its responsibility to recruit and recommend to the full Board nominees for election as Directors, the Governance and Nominating Committee reviews the composition of the Board to determine the qualifications and areas of expertise needed to further enhance the composition of the Board, and works to attract candidates with those qualifications. The Governance and Nominating Committee has adopted a written policy regarding qualifications of directors. Pursuant to this policy, individuals who are nominated for election to the Board must possess certain minimum personal and professional qualities, including, without limitation, personal integrity and ethical character; demonstrated achievement in business, professional, governmental, communal, scientific or educational fields; sound judgment borne of management or policy-making experience; and a general appreciation regarding major issues facing public companies of a size and operational scope similar to the Company. The policy also requires the Governance and Nominating Committee to consider the contributions that a candidate can be expected to make to the collective functioning of the Board based upon the totality of the candidate's credentials, experience and expertise, the composition of the Board at the time, and other relevant circumstances.

The Governance and Nominating Committee considers candidates for the Board from any reasonable source, including shareholder recommendations. The Governance and Nominating Committee does not evaluate candidates differently based on who has made the recommendation or the source of the recommendation. The Governance and Nominating Committee has the authority under its charter to hire and pay a fee to consultants or search firms to assist in the process of identifying and evaluating candidates. No such consultants or search firms have been used to date and, accordingly, no fees have been paid to consultants or search firms.

The Company does not have a formal policy that requires the consideration of diversity in identifying nominees for election to the Board. However, the Governance and Nominating Committee's policy regarding qualifications of directors provides that the Company will seek to promote through the nominations process appropriate diversity on the Board of professional background, experience, expertise, perspective, age, gender, ethnicity and country of citizenship.

The Board believes that each nominee and current Board member brings a strong and unique background and set of skills to the Board, giving the Board as a whole competence and experience in a wide variety of areas, including corporate governance and board service, executive management, insurance, accounting and finance, real estate, marketing and government.

### **Board Leadership Structure and Role in Risk Oversight**

In April of 2015, the Board of Directors elected to combine the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman and appointed Mark A. Klein as Chairman of the Board. This decision was based upon a variety of factors, including the composition of the Board, which is comprised of all independent directors other than Mr. Klein, and Mr. Klein's demonstrated leadership qualities and extensive knowledge and experience with respect to the banking industry in general and the Company's operations in particular. Based on the foregoing, the Board of Directors determined that Mr. Klein was in the best position to fill the strategic role of Chairman of the Board.

To also provide independent leadership for the Board, the Board appointed Richard L. Hardgrove to serve as Lead Independent Director upon Mr. Klein's appointment as Chairman in April of 2015. The Lead Independent Director's duties include acting as a liaison between the Board and management, approving the agenda for each Board meeting, leading the annual evaluation of the Chairman and CEO and acting as the Chairman for executive sessions of the Board. Because the Board is comprised of other strong independent directors and conducts regular executive sessions, which are led by the Lead Independent Director, the Board believes that its current leadership structure is appropriate.

The Board of Directors is responsible for consideration and oversight of risks facing the Company and is responsible for ensuring that material risks are identified and managed appropriately. Several oversight functions are delegated to committees of the Board with such committees regularly reporting to the full Board the results of their respective oversight activities. For example, the Audit Committee meets periodically with management in order to review the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures. As part of this process, the Audit Committee reviews management's risk-assessment process and reports its findings to the full Board. Also, the Compensation Committee periodically reviews the most important enterprise risks to ensure that compensation programs do not encourage excessive risk-taking. Additional review or reporting on enterprise risks is conducted as needed or as requested by the Board or Board committees.

## **Communications with the Board**

Shareholders may initiate communication with the directors of the Board. Any shareholder wishing to do so may write to the Board of Directors at the Company's principal business address, 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, OH 43512. Any shareholder communication so addressed will be delivered to the director or a member of the group of directors to whom it is addressed or to the Lead Independent Director and/or Chairman if addressed to the Board of Directors. In addition, communication via the Company's website at [www.YourSBFinancial.com](http://www.YourSBFinancial.com) may be used. There is no screening process in respect to shareholder communications. All shareholder communications received by an officer of SB Financial for the attention of the Board of Directors or specified individual directors are forwarded to the appropriate members of the Board.

## **MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD**

Each member of the Board is expected to devote sufficient time, energy and attention to ensure diligent performance of his or her duties and to attend all Board, committee and shareholder meetings. The Board met thirteen times during 2017, of which all were regularly scheduled meetings. Each director attended 75% or more of the aggregate of the number of meetings held by the Board and the number of meetings held by the Board committees on which he or she served during 2017. The Board has four standing committees: Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, Governance and Nominating Committee and Loan Review Committee. In accordance with the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules, the independent directors meet in executive session as appropriate matters for their consideration arise. The Company encourages all incumbent directors and director nominees to attend each annual meeting of shareholders. All of the incumbent directors and director nominees attended the Company's last annual meeting of shareholders held on April 19, 2017 with the exception of Tom R. Helberg and Timothy J. Stolly.

The Board's standing committees of independent directors facilitate and assist the Board in the execution of its responsibilities. Each of these committees operates under a written charter, which is available on the Company's website at [www.YourSBFinancial.com](http://www.YourSBFinancial.com) by first clicking "Corporate Governance", and then "Supplementary Info."

Director	Audit Committee Member	Compensation Committee Member	Governance and Nominating Committee Member	Loan Review Committee Member
George W. Carter		X		X ( <i>Chair</i> )
Robert A. Fawcett Jr.		X	X	
Gaylyn J. Finn	X ( <i>Chair</i> )			X
Richard L. Hardgrove		X	X	
Rita A. Kissner	X	X ( <i>Chair</i> )		
Mark A. Klein				
William G. Martin			X	
Timothy J. Stolly	X		X ( <i>Chair</i> )	
Number of meetings held – 2017	4	4	2	4

### Audit Committee

The function of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board in its oversight of:

the accounting and financial reporting principles and policies and the internal accounting and disclosure controls and procedures of the Company and its subsidiaries;

the Company's internal audit function;

the certification of the Company's quarterly and annual financial statements and disclosures; and

the Company's consolidated financial statements and the independent audit thereof.

The Audit Committee is also directly responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the work of the independent registered public accounting firm engaged by the Company for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attestation services. The independent registered public

accounting firm reports directly to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee evaluates the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm on an ongoing basis. Additionally, the Audit Committee reviews and pre-approves all audit services and permitted non-audit services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm to the Company or any of its subsidiaries and ensures that the independent registered public accounting firm is not engaged to perform the specific non-audit services prohibited by law, rule or regulation. The Audit Committee is also responsible for establishing procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, including the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

The Board has determined that each member of the Audit Committee is able to read and understand financial statements, including the Company's balance sheets, income statements and cash flow statements, and is qualified to discharge his or her duties to the Company and its subsidiaries. In addition, the Board has determined that Gaylyn J. Finn qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" for purposes of Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC by virtue of his service as the Treasurer and Associate Vice President for Finance of Bowling Green State University prior to his retirement and his CPA certification (currently inactive).

### **Compensation Committee**

The function of the Compensation Committee is to review and recommend to the Board the salary, bonus and other compensation to be paid to, and the other benefits to be received by, the Company's named executive officers. In addition, the Compensation Committee evaluates and makes recommendations regarding the compensation of the directors, including their compensation for services on Board committees. The Compensation Committee also administers the Company's stock incentive plans. A full listing of the Compensation Committee's duties and responsibilities is set forth in the Compensation Committee's charter, a copy of which is available on the Company's website at [www.YourSBFinancial.com](http://www.YourSBFinancial.com) by first clicking "Corporate Governance", and then "Supplementary Info."

## **Governance and Nominating Committee**

The function of the Governance and Nominating Committee is to assist the Board in identifying qualified individuals to become directors of the Company and its subsidiaries, determining the composition of the boards of directors and their committees, monitoring a process to assess the effectiveness of the boards of directors and their committees and developing and implementing the Company's corporate governance guidelines. The Governance and Nominating Committee also evaluates the performance of the current members of the boards of directors of the Company and its subsidiaries on an annual basis. Members of the boards of directors participate in director education programs throughout the year. Education activities may include participation in conferences, seminars, or webinars conducted from time to time by national or state associations or industry experts.

Shareholders may recommend director candidates for consideration to the Governance and Nominating Committee by writing to Richard L. Hardgrove, Lead Independent Director of the Company, or Mark A. Klein, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. To be considered, recommendations must be received at the Company's principal office located at 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512, no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> of the year preceding the annual meeting of shareholders and must state the qualifications of the proposed candidate.

Shareholders may also nominate an individual for election as a director of the Company by following the procedures set forth in the Regulations. Pursuant to the Regulations, all shareholder nominations must be made in writing and delivered or mailed (by first class mail, postage prepaid) to Keeta J. Diller, Secretary of the Company at the Company's principal office located at 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512. To nominate an individual as a director for an annual meeting of shareholders, the nomination must be received by the Secretary of the Company on or before the later of (a) the February 1st immediately preceding the date of the annual meeting of shareholders or (b) the 60th day prior to the first anniversary of the most recent annual meeting of shareholders at which directors were elected. However, if the annual meeting of shareholders is not held on or before the 31st day following the first anniversary of the most recent annual meeting of shareholders at which directors were elected, nominations must be received by the Secretary of the Company within a reasonable time prior to the date of the annual meeting of shareholders. Nominations for a special meeting of shareholders at which directors are to be elected must be received by the Secretary of the Company no later than the close of business on the 7th day following the day on which the notice of the special meeting was mailed to shareholders. In any event, each nomination must contain the following information: (a) the name, age and business or residence address of each proposed nominee; (b) the principal occupation or employment of each proposed nominee; (c) the number of Common Shares owned beneficially and of record by each proposed nominee and the length of time the proposed nominee has owned such shares; and (d) any other information required to be disclosed with respect to a nominee for election as a director under the proxy rules promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

## **Loan Review Committee**

The function of the Loan Review Committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities of credit quality at State Bank. The Loan Review Committee is comprised of independent directors who are not involved in the loan approval process at State Bank, except when full Board approval is required due to the nature or size of a particular credit being presented.

## **COMPENSATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### *Summary*

The Company has no direct employees. All officers and other employees performing services for SBFG are employees of the State Bank (the “Bank”). The Compensation Committee is a committee of the Board of Directors, composed solely of independent directors, and is responsible for developing the Bank’s executive compensation principles, policies and programs and approving the compensation to be paid to the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and each of the other named executive officers (the “named executive officers”) of the Company and the Bank. The Compensation Committee consults with Mark A. Klein, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, concerning executive officer compensation, however, he does not participate in the deliberations regarding his compensation as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer.

The primary objectives of the Bank’s executive officer compensation programs are to:

Maintain a compensation program that is equitable in a competitive marketplace.

Provide opportunities that integrate compensation with the Company's annual and long-term performance goals.

Encourage achievement of strategic objectives and creation of shareholder value.

Recognize and reward individual initiative and achievements.

Maintain an appropriate balance between base salary and short- and long-term incentive opportunity.

Allow the Company to compete for, retain, and motivate talented executives critical to its success consistent with its quality of life philosophy.





The total compensation package for executive officers of the Company and the Bank includes: base salary, short-term incentives, long-term incentives (cash and equity) and supplemental benefits such as SERP and supplemental disability. The long-term incentive opportunities may consist of equity incentives under the 2008 or 2017 Stock Plan. Executive officers also receive other employee benefits generally available to all employees. Generally, the named executive officers of the Bank, with the exception of The Chairman, President and CEO, are employed “at will” without severance agreements or employment contracts. The Company believes that its compensation levels and structure, as well as the Company’s culture and intangibles alleviate the need for the Company to utilize employment agreements with its named executive officers.

The Company holds a “say-on-pay” advisory shareholder vote on the compensation of the Company’s named executive officers at the Annual Meeting each year. The first “say-when-on-pay” advisory vote was held in 2013. The Compensation Committee noted that the Company’s proposal regarding the “say-on-pay” vote had broad support among its shareholders. The 2017 “say-on-pay” vote results were 93.1% in favor.

Based on the results of the 2017 “say-on-pay” vote, no specific component of the executive compensation program has been altered from fiscal year 2016 or 2015. The Compensation Committee and the Company’s Board of Directors believe that the Company’s executive compensation has been appropriately tailored to its business strategies, aligns pay with performance, and reflects best practices regarding executive compensation. The committee will continue to consider shareholder sentiments about the Company’s core principles and objectives when determining executive compensation.

### ***Compensation Philosophy***

The Compensation Committee believes that the most effective executive compensation program is one that is designed to reward the achievement of specific, long-term and strategic goals set by the Company, and which aligns executives’ interests with those of the shareholders by rewarding performance above established goals, with the ultimate objective of improving shareholder value. The Compensation Committee evaluates both performance and compensation to ensure that the Company maintains its ability to attract and retain quality employees in key positions. The Compensation Committee attempts to ensure that the compensation provided to key employees of the Company and its subsidiaries, including the named executive officers, remains competitive relative to the compensation paid to similarly situated employees at comparable companies. The Compensation Committee further believes that such compensation should include both cash and equity-based compensation that rewards performance as measured against established goals.

### ***Engagement of Independent Compensation Consultant***

The Compensation Committee has the sole authority to engage the services of any compensation consultant or advisor. It is the policy of the Compensation Committee to conduct a periodic, independent review of the Company's compensation programs to verify the reasonableness of its compensation programs for executives, directors and key officers as compared to peer groups and all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations. The independent reviews are conducted by a firm or individual who does not provide other services or products to the Company. In addition, the independent firm must not have any other personal or business relationships with any Board member or any officer of the Company. The Compensation Committee considers all relevant factors, including those set forth in Rule 10C-1(b)(4)(i) through (vi) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, in determining that the work performed by its compensation consultants does not raise a conflict of interest.

In early 2015, the Compensation Committee engaged the services of Blanchard Consulting Group ("BGC"), a nationally recognized independent compensation consulting company. This engagement focused on all aspects of total compensation; including base salaries, cash incentives/bonuses, equity incentives and grants, other compensation and perquisites, and executive benefits and retirement programs. As part of this executive total compensation review, BCG utilized a peer group of eighteen (18) publicly traded banks in Ohio and surrounding states and gathered and reviewed total compensation and performance data for these peer banks. A listing of the specific peer group banks utilized in the 2015 study is provided below. The report of findings from this study was utilized for making compensation decisions in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

***Peer Group Banks – Compensation Study***

The peer group banks utilized in the executive total compensation review performed by BCG in 2015 included the following:

<b>Company</b>	<b>Location</b>
MBT Financial Corp.	Monroe, MI
LNB Bancorp, Inc.	Lorain, OH
Republic First Bancorp, Inc.	Philadelphia, PA
Hawthorn Bancshares, Inc.	Jefferson City, MO
LCNB Corp.	Lebanon, OH
ACNB Corporation	Gettysburg, PA
AmeriServ Financial Inc.	Johnstown, PA
First Security Group, Inc.	Chattanooga, TN
Baylake Corp.	Sturgeon Bay, WI
Southern Missouri Bancorp, Inc.	Poplar Bluff, MO
Porter Bancorp, Inc.	Louisville, KY
Avenue Financial Holdings, Inc.	Nashville, TN
First Internet Bancorp	Indianapolis, IN
HopFed Bancorp, Inc.	Hopkinsville, KY
Community Bank Shares of Indiana, Inc.	New Albany, IN
Ohio Valley Banc Corp.	Gallipolis, OH
County Bancorp, Inc.	Manitowoc, WI
Norwood Financial Corp.	Honesdale, PA

**2017 Executive Compensation Components**

***Annual Base Salaries***

The determination of the base salaries of the executive officers of the Company is based upon an overall evaluation of a number of factors, including a subjective evaluation of individual performance, contributions to the Company and its subsidiaries, and analysis of how the Company's and its subsidiaries' compensation of its executive officers compares to compensation of individuals holding comparable positions with companies of similar asset size and complexity of operations.

During its review of each executive's base salary, the Compensation Committee primarily considers:

market data provided by outside consultants, such as BCG;

internal review of the executive's compensation, both individually and relative to other officers; and

the individual performance of the executive.

### ***Individual Performance Objectives***

The Compensation Committee establishes subjective performance objectives for each executive officer on an annual basis. The performance objectives are tailored to the particular executive officer's area of responsibility within the Company and the Bank. Whether these performance objectives are achieved is one of the factors considered by the Compensation Committee when establishing annual base salaries for the following fiscal year. Additionally, these performance objectives are used to determine the executive officers' annual incentives. For fiscal year 2017, the named executive officers were evaluated on the performance criteria set forth below:

Mark A. Klein – Act as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and the Bank, providing leadership and motivation to achieve Board approved goals and objectives. Be a spokesperson for the Company to shareholders, customers, employees, and the media. Ensure the integrity of corporate records and various regulatory reports while supervising compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Ensure that proper internal controls are in place and followed to protect the integrity of financial reporting. Communicate to the Board the progress toward goals and objectives, compliance issues, policy exceptions, and operational issues and risks.

Anthony V. Cosentino – Act as the Chief Financial Officer of the Company and the Bank, assuring the integrity and accuracy of corporate financial records and various regulatory reports. . Ensure that proper internal controls are in place and followed to protect the integrity of financial reporting. Prepare the budget and advise the executive management team and the Board of Directors on progress toward budget goals. Support shareholder relations by acting as the Company’s primary contact. Participate as a member of the Bank’s executive management team to develop direction and goals and to assist in communicating and supporting management’s priorities.

Jonathan R. Gathman – Act as the Senior Lending Officer of the Bank, supervising the Bank’s loan department to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Maintain high asset quality in the Bank’s loan portfolio by ensuring compliance with the Bank’s loan policy and managing any policy exceptions through the Loan Committee and the Board of Directors. Ensure the proper maintenance and control of customer and bank records to ensure the integrity of those records. Manage the growth of the loan department to meet budgeted goals using individual goals, incentives, and marketing. Participate as a member of the Bank’s executive management team to develop direction and goals and to assist in communicating and supporting management’s priorities.

### ***Non-Equity Incentive Compensation***

The Incentive Compensation Plan is a company-wide incentive compensation program which is intended to link incentive compensation directly to the Company’s and individual’s performance and, thereby, to shareholder value. The following were some of the 2017 organization-wide objectives supported by the plan:

build a high-performance financial company;

grow the business;

ensure sound operations, policies and procedures; and

build on the value proposition strength within each business unit.

The following table sets forth the range of potential payouts under the 2017 Incentive Compensation Plan for the named executive officers.

### **Incentive Compensation Plan Opportunity Levels for 2017 Fiscal Year**

Estimated Possible Payouts  
Under Non-Equity Incentive  
Plan

Executive Officer	Threshold	Target	Maximum
Mark A. Klein	\$41,998	\$83,996	\$167,992
Anthony V. Cosentino	\$19,520	\$39,040	\$78,079
Jonathan R. Gathman	\$17,810	\$35,620	\$71,240

For the 2017 fiscal year, Incentive Compensation awards were approved by the Compensation Committee for Mr. Klein (\$119,700), Mr. Cosentino (\$57,196) and Mr. Gathman (\$44,169), determined as follows:

Mark A. Klein 2017 Non-Equity Incentive Results

Goal	Maximum	Target	Threshold	Actual 2017 Result	Cash Reward
Return on Assets (%)	1.30	1.05	1.00	1.10	\$25,199
Diluted EPS	\$1.77	\$1.43	\$1.37	\$1.47	\$9,388
Efficiency Ratio (%)	68.50	70.50	72.50	69.22	\$34,438
Non-performing Asset Ratio (%)	0.60	0.75	0.90	0.44	\$16,799
Chargeoffs & Loss on Assets	\$400,000	\$600,000	\$750,000	\$191,910	\$16,799
Common Stock Price	\$20.87	\$18.45	\$17.25	\$18.49	\$17,077
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$119,700</b>

## Anthony V. Cosentino 2017 Non-Equity Incentive Results

Goal	Maximum	Target	Threshold	Actual 2017 Result	Cash Reward
Return on Assets (%)	1.30	1.05	1.00	1.10	\$9,370
Diluted EPS	\$ 1.77	\$ 1.43	\$ 1.37	\$ 1.47	\$ 4,363
Efficiency Ratio (%)	68.50	70.50	72.50	69.22	\$ 16,006
Non-performing Asset Ratio	0.60	0.75	0.90	0.44	\$ 11,712
Chargeoffs & Loss on Assets	\$ 400,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 191,910	\$ 7,808
Common Stock Price	\$ 20.87	\$ 18.45	\$ 17.25	\$ 18.49	\$ 7,937
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 57,196</b>

## Jonathan R. Gathman 2017 Non-Equity Incentive Results

Goal	Maximum	Target	Threshold	Actual 2017 Result	Cash Reward
Commercial Loan Balance Growth	\$ 55,000,000	\$ 45,000,000	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 47,318,218	\$ 8,775
Chargeoffs & Loss on Assets	\$ 400,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 191,910	\$ 14,248
Return on Assets (%)	1.30	1.05	1.00	1.10	\$ 8,549
Commercial Loan Fees (includes SBA Gains)	\$ 2,826,863	\$ 2,365,277	\$ 1,854,600	\$ 1,606,339	--
Criticized & Classified Loan Reduction	(\$4,000,000 )	(\$2,250,000 )	(\$1,000,000 )	(\$4,406,846 )	\$ 7,124
Non-performing Asset Ratio (%)	0.60	0.75	0.90	0.44	\$ 10,686
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 49,382</b>

**Equity-Based Awards**

The Company believes that it is also important to provide equity compensation, which serves as an incentive for long-term corporate financial performance. The Company's stock incentive plans are intended to encourage participants to acquire and retain a financial interest in the Company, to remain in the service of the Company and to put forth maximum efforts for the success of the Company. Equity based awards enable the Company and its subsidiaries to compete effectively for the services of potential employees and directors by furnishing an additional incentive to join and/or remain with the Company and its subsidiaries.

The Company grants Restricted Stock to named executive officers as determined by the Company's Return on Average Assets (ROAA) performance for the prior fiscal year. For the 2016 fiscal year, the Company's incentive ROAA was 23 basis points above the target level. This performance resulted in grants of shares to Mr. Klein (5,872), Mr. Cosentino (2,936) and Mr. Gathman (2,936).

**Equity Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Grant Levels for 2016 Fiscal Year (Granted in 2017)**

Executive Officer	Share Grants Under Equity Incentive Plan		
	Threshold	Target	Maximum
Mark A. Klein	1,500	3,000	6,000
Anthony V. Cosentino	750	1,500	3,000
Jonathan R. Gathman	750	1,500	3,000

### **Employment, Change in Control Benefits and Severance Benefits**

**Employment Agreement.** The Company entered into an Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated as of January 22, 2018, with Mark A. Klein, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and State Bank (the “A&R Employment Agreement”) which superseded Mr. Klein’s Employment Agreement dated July 15, 2015. Under the terms of the A&R Employment Agreement, Mr. Klein is entitled to receive certain severance or change in control payments and benefits if he is terminated by the Company under certain circumstances. Information regarding the payments and benefits provided under the A&R Employment Agreement is set forth under the heading “**EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**” beginning on page 16 of this proxy statement.

**Change in Control Agreements.** The Company has entered into Amended and Restated Change in Control Agreements with Mark A. Klein, Anthony V. Cosentino and Jonathan R. Gathman (the “A&R Change in Control Agreements”). Under the terms of the A&R Change in Control Agreements, each of the named executive officers is entitled to receive certain benefits, including a lump sum cash payment, if the named executive officer is terminated by the Company under certain circumstances in connection with a “change in control” of the Company. Information regarding the A&R Change in Control Agreements is set forth under the heading “**AGREEMENTS WITH EXECUTIVE OFFICERS - CHANGE IN CONTROL AGREEMENTS**” beginning on page 17 of this proxy statement.



**SERP Agreements.** The Company has entered into Amended and Restated Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan Agreements with Mark A. Klein and Anthony V. Cosentino (the “A&R SERP Agreements”). Under the terms of the A&R SERP Agreements, the executive officers are entitled to receive certain benefits following retirement. Information regarding the payments and benefits provided under the A&R SERP Agreements is set forth under the heading “**AGREEMENTS WITH EXECUTIVE OFFICERS - SERP AGREEMENTS**” beginning on page 18 of this proxy statement.

The Company provides named executive officers with perquisites and other personal benefits that the Company and the Compensation Committee believe are reasonable and consistent with its overall compensation program to better enable the Company to attract and retain quality employees for key positions.

### **Compensation Committee Report**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of SEC Regulation S-K with the Company’s management and, based on such review and discussion, the Compensation Committee recommended to the full Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement.

Submitted by the Members of the Compensation Committee

Rita A. Kissner, Chairperson

George W, Carter

Robert A. Fawcett, Jr.

Richard L. Hardgrove

### **Summary Compensation Table for 2017**

The following table sets forth the cash compensation as well as certain other compensation awarded or paid to, or earned by, each of the named executive officers of the Company.

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(h)
Name and Principal Position(s)	Year	Salary	Bonus (1)	Nonequity Incentive Plan Compensation (2)	Stock Awards (3)	Change in Pension Value & Deferred Compensation Earnings (4)	All Other Compensation (5)	Total
Mark A. Klein Chairman, President & CEO of the Company, State Bank and RDSI	2017	\$343,789	--	\$ 119,700	\$110,628	\$ 128,129	\$ 76,088	\$778,334
	2016	\$309,386	\$50,000	\$ 138,732	\$39,960	\$ 120,686	\$ 46,653	\$705,417
	2015	\$275,480	--	\$ 84,082	\$20,704	\$ 90,557	\$ 37,586	\$508,409
Anthony V. Cosentino Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer of the Company, State Bank, and RDSI	2017	\$199,214	--	\$ 57,196	\$55,314	\$ 23,921	\$ 41,533	\$377,178
	2016	\$191,991	--	\$ 73,466	\$19,980	\$ 22,531	\$ 27,386	\$335,534
	2015	\$183,905	--	\$ 42,903	\$10,352	\$ 21,424	\$ 22,659	\$281,243
Jonathan R. Gathman Executive Vice President and Senior Lender of State Bank	2017	\$181,768	--	\$ 49,382	\$55,314	--	\$ 38,680	\$325,144
	2016	\$172,808	--	\$ 56,874	\$19,980	--	\$ 23,818	\$273,480
	2015	\$162,882	--	\$ 22,432	\$10,352	--	\$ 19,363	\$215,029

The amount shown in column (d) reflects a \$50,000 bonus awarded in 2016 in recognition for achieving the vision (1) of high-performance at the 88<sup>th</sup> percentile of the peer group and for receiving the Best Value CEO for 2015 by the Fort Wayne Business journal for the third time in four years.

(2) The amounts shown in column (e) reflect cash incentives earned under the Company's Incentive Compensation Plan.

The amounts shown in column (f) reflect the equity award payouts under the SB Financial Long-Term Compensation Plan. Such equity award payouts in 2017, 2016 and 2015 consisted of restricted stock awards (3) granted under the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan of the Company with a grant date fair value of \$18.84 in 2017, \$10.03 in 2016 and \$9.55 in 2015 and have a four-year vesting schedule. There were no stock option awards during 2017, 2016 or 2015.

The amounts shown in column (g) reflect the actuarial increase in the present value of the named executive officer's (4) accumulated benefits under his SERP Agreement determined using assumptions consistent with those used in the Company's financial statements and includes amounts that the named executive officer may not currently be entitled to receive because such amounts are not vested.

(5) The amount shown in column (h) reflects "All Other Compensation", which includes the following perquisites and personal benefits:

#### All Other Compensation Table

Name		401(k)/ HSA Match Contribution	Auto Allowance	Whole Life Insurance Benefit	ESOP Contributions	Social Dues & Membership	Other (2)	Total All Other Compensation
Mark A. Klein	2017	\$ 10,464	\$ 2,811	\$ 2,778	--	(1) \$ 2,082	\$ 57,953	\$ 76,088
	2016	\$ 10,496	\$ 3,141	\$ 2,710	\$ 7,463	\$ 2,135	\$ 20,708	\$ 46,653
	2015	\$ 9,587	\$ 2,343	\$ 2,630	\$ 6,816	\$ 2,320	\$ 13,890	\$ 37,586
Anthony V. Cosentino	2017	\$ 11,685	--	\$ 1,794	--	(1) --	\$ 28,054	\$ 41,533
	2016	\$ 10,174	--	\$ 1,719	\$ 5,407	--	\$ 10,086	\$ 27,386
	2015	\$ 9,121	--	\$ 876	\$ 4,730	\$ 1,250	\$ 6,682	\$ 22,659
Jonathan R. Gathman	2017	\$ 10,264	--	\$ 442	--	(1) --	\$ 27,974	\$ 38,680
	2016	\$ 8,528	--	\$ 417	\$ 4,867	--	\$ 10,006	\$ 23,818
	2015	\$ 8,164	--	\$ 392	\$ 4,189	--	\$ 6,618	\$ 19,363

(1) As of the date of this proxy, the ESOP allocation for 2017 had not yet been determined.

(2) Includes the vesting of prior year restricted stock grants and dividends on unvested restricted stock. In addition, Mr. Klein and Mr. Cosentino were reimbursed for personal income tax preparation expense.

## **CEO Pay Ratio**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the Company performed a calculation of its CEO to median employee pay ratio in accordance with Item 402(u) of SEC Regulation S-K. The Corporation identified the median employee by examining the 2017 total cash compensation for all employees, excluding the CEO, who were employed by the Company as of December 31, 2017. It included all employees, including those employed on a full-time, part-time or seasonal basis, and did not annualize the compensation for any employees who were not employed by the Company for all of 2017. After identifying the median employee based on total cash compensation, the Company calculated the total compensation for the median employee using the same methodology used for the CEO and other named executive officers as set forth in the Summary Compensation Table included on page 14 of this Proxy Statement.

Using the methodology described above, the Company estimates that the 2017 annual total compensation of the CEO, Mark A. Klein, in the amount of \$778,334 was approximately 15.9 times the median employee's 2017 annual total compensation of \$48,907.

## **Agreements with Executive Officers**

### **Employment Agreement**

On January 22, 2018, the Company entered into an Amended and Restated Employment Agreement with Mark A. Klein (the "A&R Employment Agreement"). The A&R Employment Agreement supersedes Mr. Klein's Employment Agreement dated July 15, 2015.

Under the A&R Employment Agreement, Mr. Klein continues to be employed as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and as the President of State Bank and will perform duties assigned to him from time to time by the Board. Mr. Klein must devote his full business time and attention to the Company's business, and he may not render services of a business, commercial or professional nature to any person or organization without the prior written consent of the Board (except for limited charitable, community and other activities that do not interfere with the performance of his duties and responsibilities under the A&R Employment Agreement).

The A&R Employment Agreement has a rolling term of 36 months. The initial term of the A&R Employment Agreement commenced on January 22, 2018 and continues for a period of 36 consecutive months thereafter. The term will be automatically extended for an additional 12-month period on each 12-month anniversary of the January 22, 2018 effective date unless the Company notifies Mr. Klein in writing to the contrary at least 90 days before the anniversary date.

During the term of the A&R Employment Agreement, Mr. Klein will be paid an annual base salary of \$352,783, subject to annual increases approved by the Board in its sole discretion. Mr. Klein is also entitled to: (a) receive incentive bonuses from time to time as the Board, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate; (b) receive or participate in health and life insurance coverages, disability programs, tax-qualified retirement plans, equity compensation programs, paid holidays, paid vacation, and other fringe benefits as the Company may provide from time to time to actively employed and similarly situated employees (subject to the Company's right at any time to discontinue or terminate any employee benefit plan); (c) receive reimbursement for all reasonable business expenses he incurs in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Company; (d) use of a vehicle provided by the Company; and (e) receive liability insurance coverage under any policies covering directors and officers of the Company.

If Mr. Klein's employment is terminated by the Board for "Cause" (as defined in the A&R Employment Agreement) or by Mr. Klein without "Good Reason" (as defined in the A&R Employment Agreement), the A&R Employment Agreement will terminate automatically and Mr. Klein will only be entitled to receive any accrued but unpaid base salary through the date of termination and any unreimbursed business expenses or other payments and benefits to

which Mr. Klein is entitled under the employee benefit plans of the Company as of the date of termination (the “Accrued Obligations”).

If Mr. Klein’s employment is terminated by the Company without Cause or by Mr. Klein with Good Reason (and such termination does not occur in connection with a Change of Control as described below), the Company will: (i) pay to Mr. Klein any Accrued Obligations; (ii) continue to pay Mr. Klein his base salary in effect on the date of his termination of employment for 24 months following the date of his termination; and (iii) pay to Mr. Klein a lump sum cash amount equal to 24 times the monthly COBRA premium for the group health, dental and vision insurance in which Mr. Klein (and his family, if applicable) was enrolled immediately before the termination. The Company’s obligations to make the payments under clauses (ii) and (iii) are conditioned upon Mr. Klein’s execution of an irrevocable release of any and all claims he may have against the Company and its affiliates and their respective employees and directors.

If Mr. Klein dies or becomes permanently disabled during the term of the A&R Employment Agreement, Mr. Klein will be entitled to a severance benefit equal to the difference between the benefits that would be provided upon a termination without Cause or with Good Reason, as described above, and the benefits otherwise payable in connection with Mr. Klein’s death or disability under the Company’s fringe benefit programs.

In the event that Mr. Klein’s employment is terminated within six months before or 24 months after a Change of Control (as defined in the A&R Employment Agreement), Mr. Klein will not be entitled to any benefit payments under the A&R Employment Agreement. Instead, Mr. Klein’s rights and obligations in the event of a Change of Control will be governed by the provisions of his separate Amended and Restated Change of Control Agreement (described below).

If Mr. Klein's employment is terminated other than for Cause and the Company subsequently learns within six months following his termination that Cause to terminate Mr. Klein existed, Mr. Klein will forfeit any right to future benefits under the A&R Employment Agreement (other than any Accrued Obligations) and, at the discretion of the Board or the board of directors of an affiliate of the Company, shall be further required to repay any amounts previously paid to Mr. Klein following his termination of employment. The A&R Employment Agreement also requires Mr. Klein to reimburse the Company or an affiliate of the Company for amounts received under incentive compensation plans, programs or arrangements in the event the Company or an affiliate of the Company is required to prepare an accounting restatement due to material non-compliance by the Company or such affiliate, as a result of misconduct by Mr. Klein, with any financial reporting requirement under any applicable laws.

The A&R Employment Agreement contains non-competition provisions that prohibit Mr. Klein from engaging in business in competition with the Company and from soliciting employees, customers or referral sources of the Company and its affiliates during his employment term and for a period of two years following the termination of his employment (unless Mr. Klein's termination occurs in connection with a Change of Control). The A&R Employment Agreement also imposes customary confidentiality and non-disclosure obligations on Mr. Klein.

### **Change in Control Agreements**

On January 22, 2018, the Company entered into Amended and Restated Change of Control Agreements (each, an "A&R COC Agreement" and collectively, the "A&R COC Agreements") with each of Mark A. Klein, Anthony V. Cosentino and Jonathan R. Gathman which superseded their existing Change of Control Agreements dated July 15, 2015, April 21, 2010 and April 30, 2012, respectively.

Each A&R COC Agreement has a rolling term of 36 months. The initial term of each A&R COC Agreement commenced on January 22, 2018 and continues for a period of 36 consecutive months thereafter. The term will be automatically extended for an additional 12-month period on each 12-month anniversary of the January 22, 2018 effective date unless the Company notifies the NEO in writing to the contrary at least 90 days before the anniversary date. No notice of non-renewal may be provided by the Company, however, during the period beginning six months before or 24 months after a "Change of Control of the Company (as defined in the A&R COC Agreements), and each A&R COC Agreement will remain in effect throughout such period regardless of whether the A&R COC Agreement would otherwise expire earlier.

Under each A&R COC Agreement, if (1) the NEO is terminated by the Company or its successor within six months before or 24 months after a Change of Control of the Company (but excluding any termination for "Cause" as defined in the A&R COC Agreements) or (2) if the NEO terminates employment for "Good Reason" during such period, the Company or its successor will:

pay the NEO a lump sum cash payment equal to 2.99 times (Mr. Klein) or 2.0 times (Mr. Cosentino and Mr. Gathman) the NEO's "Annual Direct Salary" (*i.e.*, the NEO's annualized base salary based on the highest base salary rate in effect for any pay period ending with or within the 36-month period preceding the termination of his employment);

(a) pay to the NEO a lump sum cash amount equal to 36 times for Mr. Klein or 24 times for the other NEO's the sum of (i) the monthly COBRA premium for the group health, dental and vision insurance in which the NEO (and the NEO's family, if applicable) was enrolled immediately before the termination, and (ii) the monthly premium for the Company's group life and disability insurance coverage for the NEO; and

(c) pay to the NEO any Accrued Obligations.

The Company's obligations to make the payments under clauses (a) and (b) above are conditioned upon the NEO's execution of an irrevocable release of any and all claims he may have against the Company and its successor and affiliates and their respective employees and directors.

Under each A&R COC Agreement, if the NEO's employment is terminated for "Cause" (as defined in the A&R COC Agreements) or if the NEO voluntarily terminates his employment without "Good Reason" (as defined in the A&R COC Agreements), the A&R COC Agreement will terminate immediately and the NEO will not be entitled to any compensation or benefits other than any Accrued Obligations.

Each A&R COC Agreement contains non-competition provisions that prohibit the NEO from engaging in business in competition with the Company and from soliciting employees, customers or referral sources of the Company and its affiliates during his employment term and for a period of two years following the termination of his employment (unless the NEO's termination occurs in connection with a Change of Control). The A&R COC Agreements also impose customary confidentiality and non-disclosure obligations on each NEO. The non-competition obligations for Messrs. Klein and Cosentino lapse upon change in control.



## SERP Agreements

On January 22, 2018, the Company entered into Amended Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan Agreements (each, an “A&R SERP Agreement” and collectively, the “A&R SERP Agreements”) with each of Mark A. Klein and Anthony V. Cosentino which superseded their existing Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan Agreements dated July 20, 2015 and April 21, 2010, respectively.

Under each A&R SERP Agreement, if the NEO remains in the continuous employment of the Company until the NEO’s “Retirement Date” (*i.e.*, age 65, unless shortened or extended by agreement of the Board and the NEO), beginning on the first day of the month following the NEO’s termination of employment after the Retirement Date, the NEO will receive an annual benefit equal to 25% (Mr. Klein) or 15% (Mr. Cosentino) of his “Annual Direct Salary” in equal monthly installments of 1/12th of the annual benefit for a period of 180 months. “Annual Direct Salary” means the NEO’s highest annual base salary rate within the preceding 20 years of service with the Company and/or its affiliates.

If there is a “Change of Control” of the Company (as defined in the A&R SERP Agreements) and the NEO is terminated within 24 months after the date of the Change in Control, the NEO will be entitled to receive an annual retirement benefit equal to 25% (Mr. Klein) or 15% (Mr. Cosentino) of his Annual Direct Salary calculated as of the date of the change in control or the date the NEO’s employment is terminated, whichever is higher. This annual retirement benefit will be paid in equal monthly installments of 1/12th of the annual benefit for a period of 180 months beginning on the first day of the month following the NEO’s termination. At the time that all necessary approvals of the Change of Control have been obtained from the Company’s shareholders and from all applicable federal and state bank regulatory authorities, the Company is required to irrevocably deposit with an independent bank trustee cash in an amount sufficient to accrue the retirement benefit payment obligations under the A&R SERP Agreements.

If an NEO voluntarily terminates his employment prior to his Retirement Date, the NEO’s SERP Agreement will terminate immediately and the Company will pay the NEO an early retirement benefit equal to:

For Mr. Klein, 15% of his Annual Direct Salary if he terminates employment between age 60 and 65, or 25% of his Annual Direct Salary if he terminates employment at age 65; or

For Mr. Cosentino, 5% of his Annual Direct Salary if he terminates employment between age 55 and 60, 10% of his Annual Direct Salary if he terminates employment between age 60 and 65, or 15% of his Annual Direct Salary if he terminates employment at age 65.

The early retirement benefit described above will be paid in equal monthly installments of 1/12th of the annual benefit for a period of 180 months, at the same time as the full retirement benefit would be payable were the executive to work until the NEO's Retirement Date.

If the NEO is terminated by the Company for "Cause" (as defined in the A&R SERP Agreements), the NEO will not be entitled to any benefit under his A&R SERP Agreement.

If the NEO dies before termination of employment, the NEO's beneficiary is entitled to the benefit, if any, payable under the NEO's Split Dollar Agreement (described below) instead of any other benefit payable under his A&R SERP Agreement. If the NEO dies after termination of employment but before all retirement, early retirement, or disability benefit payments have been made, the Company will continue making such payments to the NEO's beneficiary.

If the NEO terminates because of a "Disability" (as defined in the A&R SERP Agreements) prior to his Retirement Date, the Company will pay the NEO a disability benefit calculated as the amount that fully amortizes (over 15 years) the accrual balance existing at the end of the month immediately before the month in which separation from service occurs. If the NEO becomes disabled after termination of employment but before all retirement or early retirement benefit payments have been made, the Company will continue making such payments to the NEO or his designated representative, as applicable

If a Change of Control occurs at any time after an NEO's termination of employment, any remaining retirement, early retirement or disability benefit installment payments will cease and, in lieu of such installment payments, the NEO will be entitled to receive the full amount of the remaining payments in a single lump sum payment on the later of (a) the five-year anniversary of the date on which the first payment of the retirement, early retirement or disability benefit was made or (b) the effective date of the Change of Control.

## Split Dollar Agreements

On January 22, 2018, the Company entered into a 2017 Split Dollar Agreement and Endorsement (each, a “Split Dollar Agreement” and collectively, the “Split Dollar Agreements”) with each of Mark A. Klein and Anthony V. Cosentino. Under the terms of each Split Dollar Agreement, State Bank owns a life insurance policy (each, a “Policy” and collectively, the “Policies”) to which the Split Dollar Agreement relates, has the obligation to pay the premiums on the Policy and has the right to exercise all incidents of ownership with respect to the Policy. Each of Mr. Klein and Mr. Cosentino, however, has the right to designate the beneficiaries to whom a portion of the death proceeds payable under the applicable Policy is to be paid in accordance with the terms of his Split Dollar Agreement. State Bank is entitled to any death proceeds payable under the Policy remaining after the payment to Mr. Klein’s or Mr. Cosentino’s beneficiaries, as applicable.

Pursuant to the Split Dollar Agreements, in the event of Mr. Klein’s or Mr. Cosentino’s death prior to his “Separation of Service” (as defined in the Split Dollar Agreements), his designated beneficiaries will be entitled to receive death benefit proceeds in an amount equal to the lesser of (a) \$1,724,320 (for Mr. Klein) or \$649,790 (for Mr. Cosentino), or (b) 100% of the difference between the total death proceeds of the Policy minus the cash surrender value of the Policy (after giving effect to the NEO’s death proceeds received under State Bank’s Executive Supplemental Insurance Plan effective March 24, 2004). The foregoing rights to receive death benefits under the Split Dollar Agreements will be extinguished in the event that Mr. Klein or Mr. Cosentino, as applicable, experiences a Separation of Service prior to his death, in which event his beneficiaries will not be entitled to any benefits under the Split Dollar Agreements.

Upon termination of each Split Dollar Agreement, State Bank is required to provide Mr. Klein or Mr. Cosentino, as applicable, with the option to purchase the Policy to which the Split Dollar Agreement relates for a purchase price equal to the cash surrender value of the Policy.

## Pension Benefits

The following table sets forth the actuarial present value of the named executive officer’s accumulated benefit, including the number of years of service credited to each named executive officer and the named executive officer’s SERP. No payments or benefits were paid to either named executive officer under the agreements during the 2017 fiscal year.

Name	Plan Name	Number of Years Credited	Present Value of Accumulated	Payments During Last
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		Service (#)	Benefit (\$)	Fiscal Year (\$)
Mark A. Klein	SERP	11.0	\$ 657,390	\$ 0
Anthony V. Cosentino	SERP	7.0	\$ 136,334	\$ 0

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

The following table sets forth the payments that would have been made to the named executive officers if any of the events detailed in the table had occurred on December 31, 2017. These payments reflect amounts and benefits payable under each of the agreements with named executive officers.

Name	Voluntary Termination on 12/31/17	Termination without cause under Change in Control on 12/31/17	Death on 12/31/17	Early Retirement on 12/31/17	Disability on 12/31/17
Mark A. Klein	--	\$ 1,054,821	--	--	--
Cobra	\$ 23,000	\$ 34,500	--	--	--
Group Term Life Insurance	--	--	\$750,000	--	\$ 500,000
Value of Stock	\$ 366,222	\$ 366,222	\$ 366,222	\$ 366,222	\$ 366,222
SERP	\$ 705,566	\$ 1,657,998	\$ 1,724,320	\$ 994,799	\$ 994,799
Anthony V. Cosentino	--	\$ 407,574	--	--	--
Cobra	--	\$ 23,000	--	--	--
Group Term Life Insurance	--	--	\$408,000	--	\$ 408,000
Value of Stock	\$ 155,945	\$ 155,945	\$ 155,945	\$ 155,945	\$ 155,945
SERP	--	\$ 625,112	\$ 649,790	\$ 208,371	\$ 208,371
Jonathan R. Gathman	--	\$ 371,874	--	--	--
Cobra	--	\$ 23,000	--	--	--
Group Term Life Insurance	--	--	\$372,000	--	\$ 372,000
Value of Stock	\$ 154,345	\$ 154,345	\$ 154,345	\$ 154,345	\$ 154,345
SERP	--	--	--	--	--

**COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION**

The Compensation Committee of the Company is currently comprised of George W. Carter, Robert A. Fawcett Jr., Richard L. Hardgrove and Rita A. Kissner (Chairperson). All of the members of the Compensation Committee are independent directors for purposes of applicable NASDAQ rules, and none of them is a present or past officer or employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries. In 2017, no executive officer of the Company served on the board of directors or compensation committee (or other committee serving an equivalent function) of any entity that compensates any member of the Company's Board of Directors or Compensation Committee.

## **EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

As of December 31, 2017, the Company had two compensation plans under which Common Shares of the Company were authorized for issuance to directors, officers or employees of the Company and our subsidiaries in exchange for consideration in the form of goods or services. The 2008 Stock Incentive Plan was approved by the Company's shareholders at the 2008 annual meeting of shareholders. This plan terminated on January 16, 2018 and no further awards may be granted under the 2008 plan. At the 2017 Annual Meeting of shareholders, a new compensation plan – the 2017 Stock Incentive Plan was approved by shareholders. Going forward, all new stock incentives will be issued under the 2017 plan.

The following table shows the number of Common Shares subject to restricted stock awards, the number of Common Shares issuable upon vesting of outstanding stock options and the number of Common Shares remaining available for awards under the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan and the 2017 Stock Incentive Plan, in each case at December 31, 2017.

## 2008 Stock Incentive Plan

Plan category	(a) Number of common shares to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (1)	(c) Number of common shares remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding common shares reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by shareholders	Options: 92,500 Restricted Stock: 50,258	Options: \$6.97 Restricted Stock: N/A	16,261
Equity compensation plans not approved by shareholders	--	--	--
Total	142,758		16,261

## 2017 Stock Incentive Plan

Plan category	(a) Number of common shares to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (1)	(c) Number of common shares remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding common

			shares reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by shareholders	Options: -- Restricted Stock: 2,000	Options: N/A Restricted Stock: N/A	498,000
Equity compensation plans not approved by shareholders	--	--	--
Total	2,000		498,000

(1) Weighted-average exercise price does not apply to the outstanding shares of restricted stock since they require no cash contribution upon the issuance of the Common Shares or any subsequent vesting.

### Grants of Plan Based Awards

The following table sets forth information regarding awards of restricted common shares granted to the named executives during the 2017 fiscal year under the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan. No other plan-based awards were granted to the named executives during the 2017 fiscal year.

Name	Grant Date	All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#) (1)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)
Mark A. Klein	Restricted Stock 02/05/17	5,872	\$ 110,628
Anthony V. Cosentino	Restricted Stock 02/05/17	2,936	\$55,314
Jonathan R. Gathman	Restricted Stock 02/05/17	2,936	\$55,314

Reflects the number of restricted common shares granted on the date indicated. One-fourth of the restricted (1) common shares vested on February 5, 2018 and one-fourth will vest on each of February 5, 2019, February 5, 2020 and February 5, 2021.



**Outstanding Equity Awards**

The following table sets forth information regarding the unexercised stock options and unvested restricted stock held by each of the named executive officers as of December 31, 2017. All of these stock options and restricted stock awards were granted under the Company's 2008 Stock Incentive Plan. Dollar amounts have been rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.

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

Name	Option Awards (2) (3)			Option Expiration Date	Stock Awards (4)	
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable (1)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price (\$)		Number of Shares or Units of Stock that have not Vested (2)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock that have not Vested (\$)
Mark A. Klein	15,000	--	\$ 6.98	02/17/2020	--	--
					3,531 (a)	\$66,524
					3,006 (b)	\$56,633
					2,464 (c)	\$46,422
					1,468 (d)	\$27,657
Anthony V. Cosentino	5,000	--	\$ 6.66	03/16/2020	--	--
					1,766 (a)	\$33,271
					1,503 (b)	\$28,317
					1,232 (c)	\$23,211
					734 (d)	\$13,829
Jonathan R. Gathman	5,000	--	\$ 6.98	02/17/2020	--	--
					1,766 (a)	\$33,271
					1,503 (b)	\$28,317
					1,232 (c)	\$23,211
					734 (d)	\$13,829

- (1) Unless otherwise indicated, all amounts reflect Common Shares of the Company underlying stock options granted pursuant to the 2008 Plan.

- (2) Restricted Shares awarded pursuant to the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan. Restricted Shares are subject to restrictions on transferability and risk of forfeiture until they become fully vested on (a) February 5, 2018, (b) February 5, 2019, (c) February 5, 2020 and (d) February 5, 2021. The Market value of Restricted Shares was computed based on the closing market price of the Company's Common Shares on February 3, 2017 (\$18.84).

**Options Exercised and Stock Vested During 2017**

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized (\$)
Mark A. Klein	--	--	2,813	\$ 52,997
Anthony V. Cosentino	--	--	1,407	\$ 26,508
Jonathan R. Gathman	--	--	1,407	\$ 26,508

**DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

The Company uses a combination of cash and stock-based incentive compensation to attract and retain qualified candidates to serve on the Board. In setting director compensation, the Company considers the significant amount of time that directors expend in fulfilling their duties to the Company as well as the skill level required by the Company of members of the Board.

It is the policy of the Compensation Committee to conduct a periodic, independent review of the Company's director compensation programs to verify the reasonableness of its director compensation program as compared to peer groups and all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations. The independent reviews are conducted by a firm or individual who does not provide other services or products to the Company. In addition, the independent firm must not have any other personal or business relationships with any Board member or any officer of the Company. The Compensation Committee considers all relevant factors, in determining that the work performed by its compensation consultants does not raise a conflict of interest.

In early 2015, the Compensation Committee engaged the services of BCG, a nationally recognized independent compensation consulting company. This engagement focused on all aspects of director compensation; including board retainer and meeting fees, equity grants and other compensation and perquisites. As part of this director compensation review, BCG utilized a peer group of eighteen (18) publicly traded banks in Ohio and surrounding states and gathered and reviewed total compensation and performance data for these peer banks. The report of findings from this study was utilized for making board compensation recommendations and decisions in 2017, 2016 and 2015.

### **Cash Compensation Paid to Board Members**

In 2017, each director of the Company who was not an employee of the Company or one of its subsidiaries (a “non-employee director”) received an annual cash retainer in the amount of \$32,550, which was paid in twelve monthly installments of \$2,712.50 each. This retainer included payment for attendance at twelve Company board meetings including two full-day planning sessions (Mid-Year Update and Strategic Thinking), two Company standing committee appointments, four meetings per committee per year and representation at Advisory Board meetings. The Lead Independent Director of the Board (currently Richard L. Hardgrove) received an additional annual cash retainer of \$16,500. Each non-employee director that served as a Chairperson of a committee of the Board also received an annual cash retainer of \$2,500, except that the member of the Audit Committee designated as the “audit committee financial expert” (currently Gaylyn J. Finn) received an additional annual cash retainer of \$6,000. Each non-employee director also received an additional \$500 per meeting that exceeded the twelve board meetings and four committee meetings per year. Certain non-employee directors of the Company also serve on the board of directors of one or more of the Company’s subsidiaries, and receive an annual cash retainer for such service.

### **Stock-based Incentive Compensation Awarded to Board Members**

In 2017, Restricted Shares were awarded to directors of the Company pursuant to the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan. On August 21, 2017, five hundred and fifty (550) Restricted Shares were awarded to each director of the Company. The Market Value of the Restricted Shares was computed based on the closing market price of the Company’s Common Shares on February 21, 2018 (\$18.99). The Restricted Shares were subject to restrictions on transferability and risk of forfeiture until they became fully vested on February 21, 2018.

**Director Compensation for 2017 Fiscal Year**

The table below summarizes the compensation awarded or paid to, or earned by, each of the non-employee directors of the Company during the 2017 fiscal year. No director who is also an employee of the Company or one of its subsidiaries receives compensation for his service as a director or as a committee member of the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

**Director Compensation Table for 2017 Fiscal Year**

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)				Total
	SBFG Director	State Bank Director	RDSI Director	All Other Compensation	
George W. Carter	\$22,030	\$13,420	--	--	\$35,450
Gary M. Cates (1)	\$18,903	\$12,360	--	--	\$31,263
Robert A. Fawcett, Jr.	\$19,530	\$14,345	--	\$ 1,281	(2) \$35,156
Gaylyn J. Finn	\$28,030	\$13,320	--	--	\$41,350
Richard L. Hardgrove	\$36,030	\$14,820	\$ 6,000	--	\$56,850
Rita A. Kissner	\$22,030	\$14,453	\$ 6,000	--	\$42,483
William G. Martin	\$19,530	\$16,045	--	--	\$35,575
Timothy J. Stolly	\$22,030	\$14,570	--	--	\$36,600

(1) Mr. Cates resigned as a director of the Company on October 23, 2017.

(2) The amount reflects premiums paid by the Company on the split-dollar BOLI policies allocable to the death benefit of \$150,000 assigned to Mr. Fawcett's beneficiaries.

**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table sets forth information concerning the only persons known to the Company to own beneficially more than 5% of the voting Common Shares of the Company as of the Record Date.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner

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	Amount Beneficially Owned	Percent of Common Shares Outstanding (1)	
The State Bank and Trust Company, Trustee SB Financial Group Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) (2) 401 Clinton Street Defiance, Ohio 43512	456,884	7.00	%
EJF Capital LLC (3) 2107 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 410 Arlington, VA 22201	525,100	8.04	%

(1) Percent of Common Shares outstanding is based on 6,528,520 Common Shares outstanding and entitled to vote on the Record Date.

(2) As reported in Schedule 13G/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 15, 2018. All Common Shares reflected in the table are held by The State Bank and Trust Company, as Trustee. Pursuant to the ESOP, the Trustee has the power to vote in its sole discretion all ESOP shares that have not been allocated to the accounts of participants. As of February 15, 2018, 7,501 Common Shares had not been allocated to participants in the ESOP. The Trustee is permitted to dispose of shares held in the ESOP only under limited circumstances specified in the ESOP or by law.

(3) As reported in Schedule 13G/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 20, 2018.

The following table sets forth information concerning the beneficial ownership of voting Common Shares of the Company, as of the Record Date, by each current director of the Company, by each individual nominated for election as a director of the Company, by each named executive officer of the Company, and by all executive officers and directors of the Company as a group:

Name of Beneficial Owner (1)/(2)	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership (1)				Total	Percent of Class (4)/(5)
	Common Shares Held as of the Record Date	Common Shares Which Can Be Acquired Upon Exercise of Options Currently Exercisable	Common Shares Which Can Be Acquired Upon Conversion of Depository Shares (3)	Common Shares Which Can Be Acquired Upon Conversion of Depository Shares (3)		
George W. Carter	2,837	—	2,496	5,333		
Anthony V. Cosentino (6)	23,019 (7)	5,000	14,978	42,997		
Robert A. Fawcett, Jr.	16,071 (8)	5,000	2,496	23,567		
Gaylyn J. Finn	12,259	—	1,498	13,757		
Jonathan R. Gathman (6)	28,390 (9)	5,000	4,993	38,383		
Richard L. Hardgrove	9,050	5,000	2,496	16,546		
Tom R. Helberg	4,658	—	—	4,658		
Rita A. Kissner	14,175	—	499	14,674		
Mark A. Klein (6)	55,483 (10)	15,000	10,235	80,718	1.23 %	
William G. Martin	5,782	—	1,498	7,280		
Timothy J. Stolly	8,623	—	999	9,622		
All named executive officers and directors as a group (11 persons)	180,347	35,000	42,187	257,535	3.90 %	

(1) The Company has established stock ownership guidelines for all named executive officers and directors. At a minimum, 10,000 shares of stock is required to be owned, within five years of adoption of the revised stock ownership guidelines that became effective July 19, 2017. Currently, all named executive officers and directors are in compliance with the revised stock ownership guidelines.

(2) Unless otherwise noted, the beneficial owner has sole voting and investment power with respect to all of the Common Shares reflected in the table. All fractional Common Shares have been rounded to the nearest whole common share. The mailing address of the current directors and executive officers is 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512.

(3) Represents the number of Common Shares as to which the named person or group has the right to acquire beneficial ownership upon the conversion of depositary shares which are beneficially owned by the named person or group. Each depositary share (“depositary shares”) represents a 1/100th ownership interest in a 6.50% Noncumulative Convertible Perpetual Preferred Share, Series A, of the Company.

(4) The Percent of Class is based upon the sum of (a) 6,528,520 Common Shares outstanding and eligible to vote on the Record Date, (b) the number of Common Shares, if any, as to which the named person or group has the right to acquire beneficial ownership upon the exercise of options which are currently exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days after the Record Date and (c) the number of Common Shares, if any, as to which the named person or group has the right to acquire beneficial ownership upon the conversion of depositary shares which are beneficially owned by the named person or group.

(5) Unless otherwise stated, reflects ownership of less than 1% of the outstanding Common Shares of the Company.

(6) Individual named in the Summary Compensation Table. Mr. Klein also serves as a director of the Company.

(7) Includes 200 Common Shares held in the names of Mr. Cosentino’s children for which Mr. Cosentino is custodian. Includes 4,942 Common Shares held for the account of Mr. Cosentino in the Company’s ESOP.

(8) Includes 6,491 Common Shares held by the Robert A. Fawcett Jr. Trust, as to which Mr. Fawcett exercises sole voting and investment power and 5,448 Common Shares held by the Brenda C. Fawcett Trust, as to which Mr. Fawcett’s wife exercises sole voting and investment power.

(9) Includes 9,107 Common Shares held for the account of Mr. Gathman in the Company’s ESOP.

(10) Includes 11,001 Common Shares held for the account of Mr. Klein in the Company’s ESOP.



## **SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE**

To the Company's knowledge, based solely on a review of the reports furnished to the Company and written representations that no other reports were required, all reports required to be filed by officers, directors and beneficial owners of more than 10% of the outstanding Common Shares of the Company under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act were filed on a timely basis during the 2017 fiscal year with the exception of Mr. Stolly. Mr. Stolly had five late Form 4 filings in 2017.

## **TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS**

The Governance and Nominating Committee is responsible, pursuant to its Charter, for reviewing and approving any transaction between the Company and any director or officer of the Company or members of their immediate family or entities with which they are affiliated. On an annual basis, each director and executive officer is obligated to complete a "Director and Officer Questionnaire" which requires the director or executive to disclose any related party transactions or business relationships involving the Company or its subsidiaries which are required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 404 of SEC Regulation S-K. In addition, the Company's Code of Conduct and Ethics prohibits the Company's directors, executive officers and employees from self-dealing or otherwise trading on their positions with the Company or accepting, from anyone doing or seeking to do business with the Company, a business opportunity not available to other persons or that is made available because of the person's position with the Company. The Code of Conduct and Ethics requires all directors, officers and employees to disclose all potential and actual conflicts of interest, including those in which they have been inadvertently placed due to either business or personal relationships with customers, suppliers, business associates, or competitors of the Company or its subsidiaries. Conflicts or potential conflicts of interest which are disclosed by a director, officer or employee of the Company are referred to and resolved by the Company's Risk Management Officer, with the approval of the Governance and Nominating Committee of the Board.

During the Company's 2017 fiscal year, certain of the directors and executive officers of the Company and State Bank, as well as members of their respective immediate families and firms, corporations or other entities with which they are affiliated, were customers of and had banking transactions (including loans and loan commitments) with State Bank in the ordinary course of its business and in compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. It is expected that similar banking transactions will be entered into in the future. Loans to these persons have been made on substantially the same terms, including the interest rate charged and collateral required, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with persons not affiliated with the Company or any of its subsidiaries. These loans have been, and are presently, subject to no more than a normal risk of uncollectibility and present no other unfavorable features. As of the date of this proxy statement, each of the loans described in this paragraph was performing in accordance with its original terms. Each of the loans described in this paragraph was subject to our written policies, procedures and standard underwriting criteria applicable to loans generally as well as made in accordance with the requirements of Regulation O promulgated by Federal Reserve Board governing prior approval of the loan by the Board of Directors of State Bank.



**PROPOSAL NO. 2**

**RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE  
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm is made annually by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has appointed BKD, LLP ("BKD") to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. The Audit Committee and the Board have decided to submit the appointment of BKD to the shareholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate governance and because of the important role of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm in reviewing the quality and integrity of the Company's financial statements.

BKD has served as the Company's independent auditor/independent registered public accounting firm since November 2002, and BKD audited the Company's consolidated financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. The Company expects that representatives of BKD will be present at the Annual Meeting, will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the Common Shares represented at the Annual Meeting, in person (including electronically via the live webcast) or by proxy, and entitled to vote on the proposal, is required to ratify the appointment of BKD as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. The effect of an abstention is the same as a vote "AGAINST the proposal". Even if the appointment of BKD is ratified by the shareholders, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, could decide to terminate the engagement of BKD and to engage another firm if the Audit Committee determines such action is necessary or desirable. If the appointment of BKD is not ratified by the shareholders, the Audit Committee will reconsider the appointment (but may nonetheless, in its discretion, decide to maintain the appointment).

**THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND YOUR BOARD RECOMMEND THAT  
SHAREHOLDERS VOTE FOR**

**THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF BKD, LLP**

**PROPOSAL NO. 3**

**NON-BINDING ADVISORY VOTE ON NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMPENSATION**

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) and corresponding SEC rules enable shareholders to vote to approve, on an advisory and non-binding basis, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with SEC rules. As a result, the following resolution will be submitted for shareholder approval at the Annual Meeting:

**“RESOLVED, that the shareholders of SB Financial Group, Inc. hereby approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the corporation’s named executive officers as disclosed in the corporation’s Proxy Statement for its 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders pursuant to Item 402 of SEC Regulation S-K, including in the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis”, the “Summary Compensation Table for 2017”, and the related tables, notes and narrative disclosures contained under the heading “COMPENSATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS” in the corporation’s Proxy Statement.**

The Board believes that the Company’s compensation policies and procedures, which are reviewed and approved by the Compensation Committee, are effective in aligning the compensation of our named executive officers with the Company’s short-term and long-term goals and that such compensation and incentives are designed to attract, retain and motivate our key executives who are directly responsible for the Company’s continued success. The Board of Directors believes that the Company’s compensation policies and practices do not threaten the value of the Company or the investments of our shareholders or create incentives to engage in behaviors or business activities that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse impact on the Company. The Board believes that the Company’s culture focuses on sound risk management and appropriately rewards executives for performance. The Board further believes that the Company’s compensation policies and procedures are reasonable in comparison both to the Company’s peer bank holding companies and to the Company’s performance during the 2017 fiscal year.

Shareholders are encouraged to carefully review the information provided in this proxy statement regarding the compensation of the Company’s named executive officers in the section captioned “**COMPENSATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**” beginning on page 9 of this proxy statement.

Because your vote is advisory, the outcome of the vote will not: (i) be binding upon the Board or the Compensation Committee with respect to future executive compensation decisions, including those relating to our named executive officers, or otherwise; (ii) overrule any decision made by the Board or the Compensation Committee; or (iii) create or imply any additional fiduciary duty by the Board or the Compensation Committee. However, the Board and the

Compensation Committee expect to take into account the outcome of the advisory vote when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the Common Shares represented at the Annual Meeting, in person (including electronically via the live webcast) or by proxy, and entitled to vote on the proposal is required to approve the non-binding advisory resolution to approve the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement. The effect of an abstention is the same as a vote "AGAINST" the proposal. Broker non-votes will not be counted in determining whether the proposal has been approved.

**YOUR BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT**

**SHAREHOLDERS VOTE FOR**

**THE NON-BINDING ADVISORY RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS  
COMPENSATION**

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE DISCLOSURE**

### **Role of the Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibility for the oversight of the quality and integrity of the accounting, auditing and financial reporting practices of the Company. The Audit Committee is comprised solely of independent directors. The specific responsibilities of the Audit Committee are set forth in the Audit Committee Charter and described under the heading “**MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD–Committees of the Board–Audit Committee**” beginning on page 8 of this proxy statement.

Management is responsible for the Company’s consolidated financial statements and the accounting and financial reporting processes of the Company, including the establishment and maintenance of adequate internal controls over financial reporting. The Company’s independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the Company’s consolidated financial statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and issuing its report on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

### **Pre-Approval of Services Performed by Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Under applicable SEC rules, the Audit Committee is required to pre-approve all audit and non-audit services performed by the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm in order to assure that they do not impair the independent registered public accounting firm’s independence from the Company. The SEC’s rules specify the types of non-audit services that an independent registered public accounting firm may not provide to its audit client and establish the Audit Committee’s responsibility for administration of the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm. Accordingly, the Audit Committee pre-approves all audit and permitted non-audit services proposed to be provided by the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm.

The pre-approval of audit and non-audit services and fees of the independent registered public accounting firm may be documented by a member of the Audit Committee signing annual or periodic engagement letters that define in general terms the type of services to be provided and the range of fees that are considered acceptable for such services, or as otherwise documented in the minutes of the Audit Committee meetings. The actual compensation paid to the independent registered public accounting firm for all such pre-approved services and fees is reported to the Audit Committee on at least a quarterly basis. All services rendered by BKD during 2017 and 2016 were pre-approved by the Audit Committee.

## Services of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Company paid the following amounts to BKD for audit, audit-related, tax and other services rendered:

	2017	2016
Audit Fees (1)	\$323,499	\$171,200
Audit-Related Fees	—	—
Tax Fees (2)	24,650	19,500
All Other Fees	—	—
TOTAL	\$348,149	\$190,700

(1) Audit fees consist of fees for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements, review of interim condensed financial statements included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, audit procedures with respect to acquisitions, services in connection with statutory and regulatory filings including annual reports on Form 10-K and registration statements under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and for services in connection with the filing of registration statements on Forms S-3 and S-8. Additional review was necessitated due to the Company's increased market capitalization, which required expanded audit testing and review.

(2) Tax fees consist of fees for tax return preparation services, tax planning advice and assistance with tax examination.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017, the Audit Committee:

· reviewed and discussed the Company's audited financial statements with management;

· discussed with BKD, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended, as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3200T; and

· received the written disclosures and the letter from BKD, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding BKD's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and discussed with BKD its independence.

Based on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board (and the Board has approved) that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017 for filing with the SEC.

Submitted by the Members of the Audit Committee  
Gaylyn J. Finn, Chairperson  
Rita A. Kissner  
Timothy J. Stolly



**SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS FOR THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

Proposals by shareholders intended to be presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders must be received by the Corporate Secretary of the Company by no later than November 9, 2018, to be eligible for inclusion in the Company's proxy card, notice of meeting and proxy statement relating to the 2019 Annual Meeting. Upon receipt of a shareholder proposal, the Company will determine whether to include the proposal in the proxy materials in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC. The SEC has promulgated rules relating to the exercise of discretionary voting authority under proxies solicited by the Board. If a shareholder intends to present a proposal at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, and does not notify the Corporate Secretary of the Company of the proposal by January 23, 2019, the proxies solicited by the Board for use at the 2019 Annual Meeting may be voted on the proposal, without any discussion of the proposal in the Company's proxy statement for the 2019 Annual Meeting. In each case, written notice must be given to the Corporate Secretary of the Company at the following address: Keeta J. Diller, Corporate Secretary, SB Financial Group, Inc., 401 Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512.

**OTHER MATTERS**

As of the date of this proxy statement, the Board knows of no other business to be presented for action by the shareholders at the Annual Meeting other than those discussed in this proxy statement. If any other matter is properly presented at the Annual Meeting, or at any adjournment of the Annual Meeting, the persons named and acting under the proxies solicited by the Board will vote the Common Shares represented by such proxies on such matters in accordance with their best judgment in light of the conditions then prevailing, to the extent permitted under applicable law.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PROXIES BE SUBMITTED PROMPTLY. EVEN IF YOU PLAN PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL MEETING VIA THE LIVE WEBCAST, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO VOTE ELECTRONICALLY VIA THE INTERNET IN ADVANCE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS ON YOUR PROXY CARD. ALTERNATIVELY, PLEASE FILL IN, DATE, SIGN AND RETURN YOUR PROXY CARD PROMPTLY.**

March 9, 2018 By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Mark A. Klein  
Mark A. Klein  
Chairman, President & CEO  
SB Financial Group, Inc.

