



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

2019 SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE CEO

My Fellow Shareholders,

April marks my third month as CEO and Director of Sequential Brands Group. When I started writing this letter, my plan was to outline the Company's accomplishments in 2019 and our strategic priorities for 2020 and beyond. However, much has changed in just a few short weeks. The coronavirus pandemic is having an unprecedented impact on the U.S. economy, including the apparel and accessories industry. Mandatory social distancing measures, including store closures, are affecting retailers that carry our brands, as well as our licensees who sell to these retailers. We are unable to predict when retailers who have temporarily closed stores will reopen or if additional future store closures will be needed or mandated. Given the profound impact of the virus and these uncertainties, we have shifted our focus to weathering the storm and positioning the Company to take advantage of opportunities that may arise in the future. We have taken steps to increase available cash on hand including, but not limited to, targeted reductions in expenses, short-term lender relief, and utilizing funds available under our revolving credit facility. These measures are in addition to the significant cost savings we achieved in 2019 following the sale of our home division.

For 2020, our focus is on managing the business through the unexpected and unpredictable environment that we face today. We remain focused on expense reductions across the board. We expect these cost-cutting initiatives will help us achieve an operating expense base of \$30 million on an annualized run-rate basis starting this year, which is a meaningful reduction compared to the Company's approximately \$70 million operating expense base prior to the divestiture of the home division.

Late last year, the Board of Directors announced that we would be conducting a broad review of strategic alternatives. We remain focused on exploring all opportunities that best position the Company for long-term success and maximize value in these challenging times.

I'd like to personally thank all of our dedicated employees, our partners, our licensees, our lenders, our Board of Directors and last, but certainly not least, our valued shareholders. Thank you for your continued commitment to Sequential.

Sincerely,

David Conn
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Member of the Board of Directors

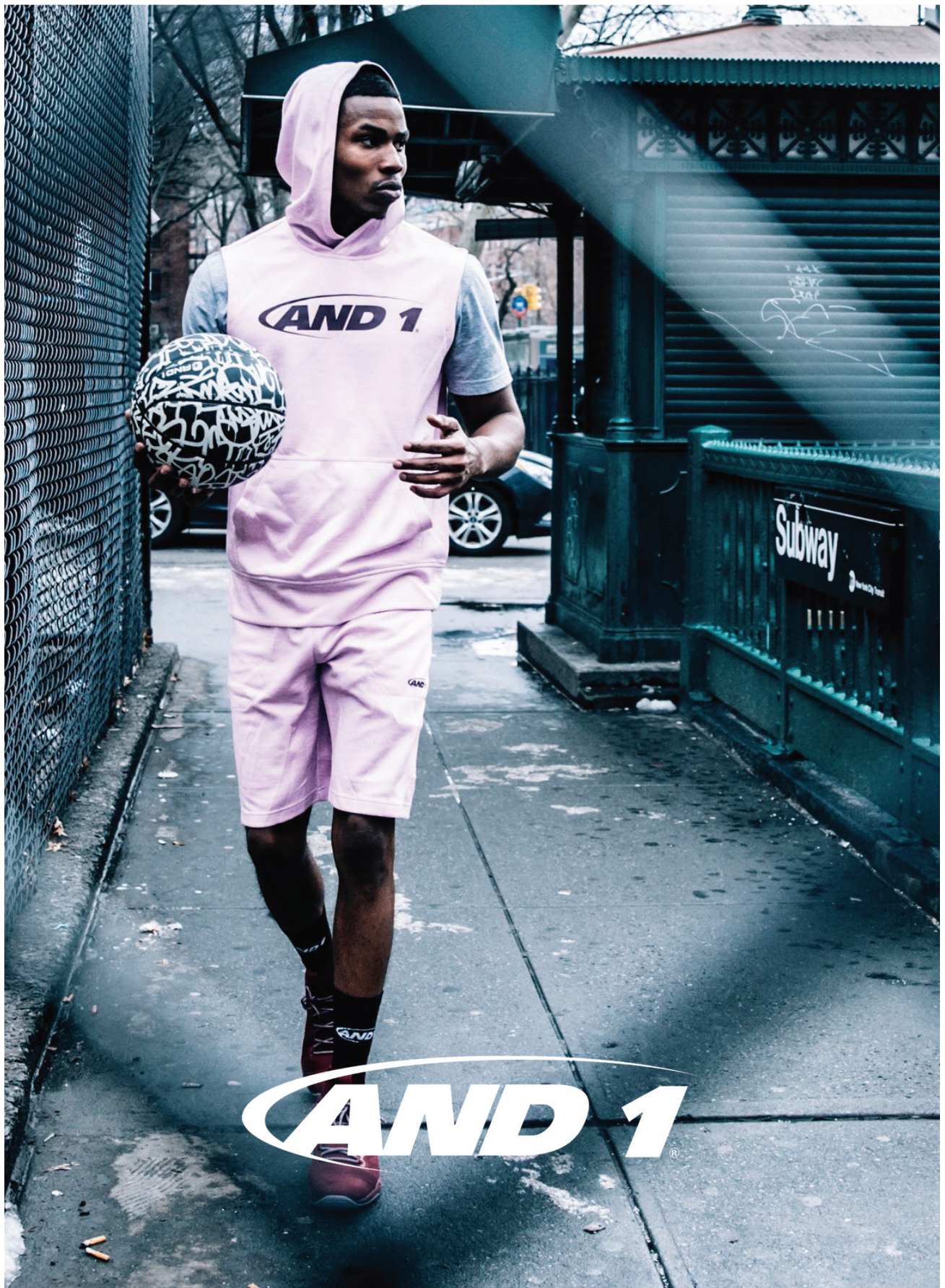






GAIAM®







ELLEN TRACY™



CARIBBEAN  JOE
ISLAND SUPPLY CO

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

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

☒ **Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019

☐ **Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 001-37656

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

47-4452789

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

601 West 26th Street, 9th Floor

New York, New York 10001

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

(646) 564-2577

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Title of each class:	Trading Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered:
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share	SQBG	NASDAQ Capital Market

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

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

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

Large accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☒

Emerging growth company ☐

Accelerated filer ☐

Smaller reporting company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

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

The aggregate market value of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant on June 30, 2019, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter was \$16,718,928 (based on the closing sales price of the registrant's common stock on that date).

At March 23, 2020, the registrant had 65,905,900 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value, outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant's proxy statement for its annual meeting of stockholders to be held on June 5, 2020 are incorporated by reference in Items 10 through 14 of Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC.

INDEX TO FORM 10-K

	<u>Page</u>
PART I	
Item 1. Business	2
Item 1A. Risk Factors	7
Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments	18
Item 2. Properties	18
Item 3. Legal Proceedings	19
Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures	19
PART II	
Item 5. Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities	20
Item 6. Selected Financial Data	22
Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	24
Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk	35
Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	35
Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	35
Item 9A. Controls and Procedures	35
Item 9B. Other Information	38
PART III	
Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	39
Item 11. Executive Compensation	39
Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters	39
Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	39
Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services	39
PART IV	
Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules	40
Item 16. Form 10-K Summary	43
Signatures	44

PART I

Unless otherwise noted, references in this Annual Report on Form 10-K to the “Sequential Brands Group,” “Company,” “our Company,” “we,” “us,” “our” or similar pronouns refer to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries. References to other companies may include their trademarks, which are the property of their respective owners.

This 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K, including the sections entitled “Risk Factors,” “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and “Business,” contains “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”) and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). We use words such as “future,” “seek,” “could,” “can,” “predict,” “believe,” “intend,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “plan,” “may,” “will,” “should,” “estimate,” “potential,” “project” and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements include, among others, those concerning our expected financial performance and strategic and operational plans, as well as all assumptions, expectations, predictions, intentions or beliefs about future events. You are cautioned that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that a number of risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to the following: (i) risks and uncertainties discussed in the reports that the Company has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”); (ii) general economic, market or business conditions; (iii) the Company’s ability to identify suitable targets for acquisitions and to obtain financing for such acquisitions on commercially reasonable terms; (iv) the Company’s ability to timely achieve the anticipated results of its acquisitions and any potential future acquisitions; (v) the Company’s ability to successfully integrate acquisitions into its ongoing business; (vi) the potential impact of the consummation of its acquisitions or any potential future acquisitions on the Company’s relationships, including with employees, licensees, customers and competitors; (vii) the Company’s ability to achieve and/or manage growth and to meet target metrics associated with such growth; (viii) the Company’s ability to successfully attract new brands and to identify suitable licensees for its existing and newly acquired brands; (ix) the Company’s substantial level of indebtedness, including the possibility that such indebtedness and related restrictive covenants may adversely affect the Company’s future cash flows, results of operations and financial condition and decrease its operating flexibility; (x) the Company’s ability to achieve its guidance; (xi) continued market acceptance of the Company’s brands; (xii) changes in the Company’s competitive position or competitive actions by other companies; (xiii) licensees’ ability to fulfill their financial obligations to the Company; (xiv) concentrations of the Company’s licensing revenues with a limited number of licensees and retail partners; (xv) risks related to the effects of the sale of the Martha Stewart brand; (xvi) uncertainties related to the timing, proposals or decisions arising from the Company’s strategic review, including the divestiture of one or more existing brands; (xvii) uncertainties related to the Company’s leadership changes; (xviii) adverse effects on the Company and its licensees due to natural disasters, pandemic disease and other unexpected events; and (xix) other circumstances beyond the Company’s control.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made and are based on current expectations and assumptions. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statement. We are not under any obligation, and we expressly disclaim any obligation, to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changes in assumptions or changes in other factors affecting forward-looking information, except to the extent required by applicable securities laws. If we do update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to such or other forward-looking statements.

Item 1. Business

Corporate Overview

We own a portfolio of consumer brands in the active and lifestyle categories, including, *Jessica Simpson*, *AND1*, *Avia*, *Joe's* and *GAIAM*. We aim to maximize the value of our brands by promoting, marketing and licensing the brands through various distribution channels, including to retailers, wholesalers and distributors in the United States and in certain international territories. Our core strategy is to enhance and monetize the global reach of our existing brands, and to pursue additional strategic acquisitions to grow the scope of and diversify our portfolio of brands.

Our business is designed to maximize the value of our brands through license agreements with partners that are responsible for manufacturing and distributing our licensed products. Our brands are licensed for a broad range of product categories, including apparel, footwear, fashion accessories and home goods. We seek to select licensees who have demonstrated the ability to produce and sell quality products in their respective licensed categories and have the capability to meet or exceed the minimum sales thresholds and guaranteed minimum royalty payments that we generally require.

We license our brands to both wholesale and direct-to-retail licensees. In a wholesale license, a wholesale supplier is granted rights (typically on an exclusive basis) to a single or small group of related product categories for a particular brand for sale to multiple accounts within an approved channel of distribution and territory. In a direct-to-retail license, a single retailer is granted the right (typically on an exclusive basis) to sell branded products in a broad range of product categories through its brick and mortar stores and e-commerce sites. As of December 31, 2019, we had approximately one hundred licensees, with wholesale licensees comprising a significant majority.

Strategy

We own, manage, and maximize the long-term value of a diversified portfolio of global consumer brands. We aim to acquire well-known consumer brands with high potential for growth and strong brand awareness. We additionally seek to diversify our portfolio by evaluating the strength of targeted brands and the expected viability and sustainability of future royalty streams. Upon the acquisition of a brand, we partner with leading wholesalers and retailers to drive incremental value and maximize brand equity. We focus on certain key initiatives in our licensing and brand management business. These initiatives include:

- *Maximizing the value of our existing brands* by creating efficiencies, adding additional product categories, expanding distribution and retail presence and optimizing sales through innovative marketing that increases consumer brand awareness and loyalty;
- *Expanding through e-commerce channels*;
- *Developing international expansion* through additional licenses, partnerships and other arrangements with leading retailers and wholesalers outside the United States; and
- *Acquiring consumer brands (or the rights to such brands)* with high consumer awareness, broad appeal and applicability to a wide range of product categories.

Licensing Relationships

Our license agreements typically require a licensee to pay us royalties based upon net sales and, in most cases, contain guaranteed minimum royalties. Our license agreements also require licensees to support the brands by either paying or spending contractually guaranteed minimum amounts for the marketing and advertising of the respective licensed brands. As of March 23, 2020, we had contractual rights to receive an aggregate of \$208.3 million in minimum royalty and marketing and advertising revenue from our licensees through the balance of the current terms of such licenses, excluding any renewals.

Our license agreements stipulate specific geographical territories and distribution channels in which the licensed products may be sold. Currently, the majority of our revenues are from license agreements with stipulated distribution territories in the United States. As we grow our existing brands and acquire new

brands, we intend to increase the share of our international revenue, primarily through additional licenses, partnerships and other arrangements.

Our licensing revenues are concentrated with certain licensees and retail partners. During the year ended December 31, 2019, three licensees represented at least 10% of net revenue, accounting for 19%, 16% and 14% of the Company's net revenue from continuing operations. For additional information, see "Risk Factors Risks Related to our Business — A substantial portion of our licensing revenue is concentrated with a limited number of licensees and retail partners, such that the loss of a licensee or retail partner could materially decrease our revenue and cash flows" in Item 1A.

Description of Our Brands

Jessica Simpson

We acquired a majority ownership interest in the *Jessica Simpson* brand, including the *Jessica Simpson Collection* master license and other rights, in 2015. Founded in 2005, the *Jessica Simpson Collection* is a signature lifestyle concept inspired by and designed in collaboration with Jessica Simpson. The growing brand offers multiple product categories including footwear, apparel, fragrance, fashion accessories, maternity apparel, girls' clothing and home products. The brand is supported by best-in-class licensees and has strong department store and online distribution through Dillard's, Macy's, Belk, Nordstrom, Zappos.com, and DSW, among other independent retailers. We have a license agreement with Camuto Group to manufacture and distribute footwear under the *Jessica Simpson Collection*. The *Jessica Simpson Collection* is distributed worldwide.

AND1

We acquired the *AND1* brand in 2014, which was founded in 1993 and prides itself on being the original street basketball brand focusing on the everyday player. Key licensees for the *AND1* brand include E.S. Originals, Inc. ("ESO") for footwear and High Life, LLC for apparel. In addition, the *AND1* brand is licensed in product categories, such as hosiery, underwear, off-court/casual footwear and other accessories. The *AND1* brand is offered through Wal-Mart stores, sporting goods retailers and related e-commerce sites in the United States and has a strong distribution network reaching over 20 countries.

Avia

We acquired the *Avia* brand in 2014, which was founded in 1979 and is best known for running and activewear products designed to unite performance and function for athletes of every level. Since we acquired *Avia*, we have expanded its licensed product categories to include wearable fitness accessories, hosiery, sports bags and various other accessory products. The *Avia* brand is primarily offered through Wal-Mart stores in the United States, with additional distribution through specialty retailers and related e-commerce sites as well as globally in numerous countries including an international partnership in China.

GAIAM

We acquired the *GAIAM* brand in 2016. Founded in 1996 as an eco-living catalog company, *GAIAM* evolved into a yoga brand by producing and distributing yoga videos and related products through multiple channels of distribution. *GAIAM* has since expanded to include a full line of apparel, yoga mats, yoga mat bags, yoga blocks and straps, yoga and fitness props, balance balls, bags, active sitting products, including our balance ball chair, fitness kits and various other accessories. *GAIAM* is dedicated to making yoga, fitness and wellness accessible to all through a wide distribution network that consists of approximately 38,000 retail doors, 19,000 store-within-a-stores, 5,000 category management locations and e-commerce. We currently license the *GAIAM* brand to various licensees, including Fit For Life, LLC for yoga sporting goods and High Life, LLC for apparel.

Joe's

We acquired the *Joe's* brand in 2015. Founded in 2001, *Joe's* is a casual chic global lifestyle brand synonymous with classic, modernized wardrobe staples ranging from premium denim to handcrafted

collection pieces, and from contemporary accessories to footwear. *Joe's* has since expanded to include kid's apparel and footwear, intimate apparel, hosiery, fragrance, cold weather, belts, men's ties, small leather goods and bags. Concurrently with the acquisition, we entered into a long-term license agreement for the brand's core categories with Centric Brands, Inc. *Joe's* branded products are available at better department stores and specialty boutiques in the United States and internationally.

Ellen Tracy

We acquired the *Ellen Tracy* brand in 2013, which was founded in 1949 and is a leading fashion lifestyle brand focusing on polished and sophisticated style for modern women. The *Ellen Tracy* brand is known for quality tailoring, timeless silhouettes and classic signature prints. Product offerings currently include apparel, outerwear, sleepwear, intimate apparel, hosiery, eyewear, fragrance, fashion accessories, swimwear, handbags and luggage. Licensees for the *Ellen Tracy* brand include GBG USA Inc. for sportswear and dresses, Weatherproof for outerwear, Amerex for swimwear, and Komar for sleepwear and intimate apparel. In addition, the *Ellen Tracy* brand has been licensed for jewelry, bath and body gifts, cosmetics and home. The *Ellen Tracy* brand is offered in premium and regional department and specialty stores throughout the United States as well as globally.

William Rast

The *William Rast* brand is a lifestyle fashion brand rounded in the iconography of biker culture with designs that embody the "new America" sensibility and deliver an edgy yet tailored collection of premium denim, fragrance and jewelry for both men and women. Product offerings include denim, knitwear, jewelry, women's footwear and fragrance. Licensees for the *William Rast* brand include One Jeanswear for men's and women's apparel, Yoki Fashions Inc. for footwear and Bellevue Brands Inc. for fragrance. Distribution includes several national retailers including Macy's, Dillard's, Belk, Lord & Taylor and Amazon.

Heelys

We acquired the *Heelys* brand in 2013, which was founded in 1999 and has been a breakout success in the world of action sports among children and teens with its innovative, patented dual-purpose wheeled footwear, featuring a stealth removable wheel in the heel. *Heelys* continues to grow into the ultimate kids' active lifestyle brand. The primary licensee for the *Heelys* brand is BBC International LLC for wheeled footwear and related accessories. The *Heelys* brand is offered through department stores, sporting goods retailers, related e-commerce sites, as well as *Heelys*' own e-commerce site in the United States and over 70 additional countries.

Caribbean Joe

We acquired the *Caribbean Joe* brand in 2013, which was founded in 1999 and is a casual, island inspired, lifestyle brand. Originally rooted in apparel, *Caribbean Joe*'s product offerings have expanded to include swimwear, fashion accessories and home textiles. Licensees for the *Caribbean Joe* brand include Levy Group Inc. for all apparel and women's swimwear and the Bentex Group for women's sleepwear, loungewear as well as men's and kid's swimwear. The *Caribbean Joe* brand is distributed in the United States through mid-tier department stores, specialty stores, e-commerce sites and off-price retailers as well as internationally through specialty retailers and distributors.

DVS

We own a 65% interest in the *DVS* brand through a joint venture with Elan Polo International, Inc. ("Elan Polo"), a global organization which designs, sources and delivers men's, women's and children's shoes to retailers around the world. The *DVS* brand is a footwear brand dedicated to inspiring youth to have fun and always push forward and is best known for its great style, technical features and input of some of the best action sports athletes in the world. Product offerings for the brand currently include footwear, backpacks and accessories. The primary licensee for the *DVS* brand is Elan Polo for footwear, with distribution through specialty street skating and other specialty stores in the United States and internationally.

The Franklin Mint

We acquired *The Franklin Mint* brand in 2013, which was founded in 1964 and is a brand in the collectible and gift giving arena. *The Franklin Mint* brand has been licensed in multiple categories, including coins, models, jewelry, games, décor, giftables, seasonal, and co-branded products through license agreements. *The Franklin Mint* brand is currently offered via the franklinmint.com website.

Linens N Things

We acquired the *Linens N Things* brand in 2014, which was founded in 1975 and is a home textiles, housewares and decorative home accessories brand.

SPRI

We acquired the *SPRI* brand in July 2016 as part of the GAIAM transaction. Founded in 1983 as the Sports Performance Rehabilitative Institute, *SPRI* pioneered a line of rubber resistance products in the fitness & training category. Over the past 30 years, *SPRI* has grown to be a leading exercise brand, offering a full line of fitness accessories, training tools and educational materials. The *SPRI* brand today focuses on distribution in both the commercial fitness (gyms, fitness clubs and hotels) and retail fitness channels. The *SPRI* brand continues to show growth through expansion at Target with the “Ignite” by *SPRI* collection.

Nevados

We acquired the *Nevados* brand in 2014, which was founded in 1990 and was inspired by the 17,000-foot Los Nevados National Natural Park in the Colombian Andes Mountains range. With a dedication to comfort and durability, *Nevados* offers hiking boots and outdoor shoes to make sure you see the great outdoors, and enjoy every step of the way. Today the brand is distributed through Amazon, as well as select specialty stores in the United States and internationally.

Business Segment

We have a single operating and reportable segment, as described more fully in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Reportable Segment” in Item 7. See Item 6 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for measures of our net revenues, consolidated net loss and total assets as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017.

Corporate Organization/Information

We were formed in June 2015 in connection with a strategic combination resulting in our predecessors, Sequential Brands Group, Inc. (“Old Sequential”) and MSLO, becoming our wholly-owned subsidiaries (the “Mergers”). Old Sequential was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware in 1982 as People’s Liberation, Inc. and changed its name to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. in 2012. Old Sequential’s common stock began trading on the Nasdaq Capital Market (“Nasdaq”) under the ticker “SQBG” on September 24, 2013, and we succeeded to Old Sequential’s listing on December 7, 2015.

On June 10, 2019, we completed the sale of MSLO, a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, for \$166 million in cash consideration, plus additional amounts in respect of pre-closing accounts receivable that are received after the closing, subject to certain adjustments, pursuant to the Purchase Agreement with the Buyer entered into on April 16, 2019. In addition, the Purchase Agreement provides for an earnout of up to \$40,000,000 payable to Sequential if certain performance targets are achieved during the three calendar years ending December 31, 2020, December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022. MSLO and its subsidiaries were engaged in the business of promoting, marketing and licensing the *Martha Stewart* and the *Emeril Lagasse* brands through various distribution channels.

Due to the sale of MSLO during the second quarter of 2019 (see Note 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Form 10-K), in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 205, *Discontinued Operations*, we have classified the results of MSLO as discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations and cash flows for all periods presented. Additionally, the related assets and liabilities directly associated with MSLO are classified as held for disposition from

discontinued operations in our consolidated balance sheets for all periods presented. All amounts included in the notes to the consolidated financial statements relate to continuing operations unless otherwise noted.

Competition

We operate in a highly competitive market, both for our individual brands and for the Company as a whole.

Our brands are subject to extensive competition from various domestic and foreign brands. Each of our brands has a number of competitors within its specific product categories and distribution channels that compete with the product categories and distribution channels in which our brands' products are sold. Our brands also compete within the retail stores and other distribution channels that carry such brand's product lines with other products offered by these retail stores and distribution channel in the respective product categories, including with products sold under our partners' private labels. We also compete with the e-commerce businesses of these stores and other websites that sell similar retail goods. Competitive factors include design, style, quality, price, name recognition, service and advertising.

In addition, we face competition in establishing and maintaining licensee relationships for our existing brands. Competitors may seek to enter into brand licensing arrangements with our current or potential licensees, which may inhibit our ability to enter into or maintain licensing arrangements. In addition, the retailers that currently sell our branded products may develop their own brands or acquire brands rather than purchase products from our licensees, which could make it more difficult for our licensees to achieve their sales targets.

We also compete with traditional apparel and consumer brand companies, as well as other brand management companies, for acquisitions of accretive brands, particularly brands with high consumer awareness, broad appeal and applicability to a wide range of product categories.

Trademarks

Our trademarks and associated marks are registered or pending registration with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in block letter and/or logo formats, as well as in combination with a variety of ancillary marks for use with respect to a broad range of product categories, including footwear, apparel, fragrance, handbags, backpacks, watches, home goods and various other goods and services. We intend to renew these registrations as appropriate prior to their expiration. In addition, we register our trademarks in other countries and regions around the world. We also have domestic, foreign and international intellectual property coverage for the technology and designs for several brands including for *Heelys* wheeled footwear and certain *Gaiam* yoga-related products and *SPRI* products. We own the rights to 39 U.S. issued patents and 42 foreign issued patents within 24 territories.

We monitor on an ongoing basis unauthorized use and filings of our trademarks and patents and rely primarily upon a combination of federal, state and local laws, as well as contractual restrictions, to protect our intellectual property rights, both domestically and internationally.

Employees

As of March 23, 2020, we had a total of 42 employees and area-specific consultants working to support our operations. None of our employees are represented by a labor union. We consider our relationship with our employees to be satisfactory.

Available Information

Our corporate website address is www.sequentialbrandsgroup.com. The information contained on our website is not part of this report. We file our annual, quarterly and current reports and other information with the SEC. These reports, and any amendments to these reports, are made available on our website and can be viewed and downloaded free of charge as soon as reasonably practicable after such reports are filed with or furnished to the SEC. In addition, the SEC maintains an internet site that contains annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC, which is available at www.sec.gov.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Our operations and financial results are subject to various risks and uncertainties that could adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows, prospects and/or the trading price of our common stock. Although the risks and uncertainties listed below are those that we consider significant, material risks and uncertainties that are not presently known to us may also adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations. In evaluating our business and an investment in our securities, you should consider the following risk factors, in addition to the other information presented in this report, as well as the other reports we file from time to time with the SEC:

Risks Related to Our Business

The recent coronavirus outbreak could have an adverse effect on our business, financial position and cash flows.

Concerns are rapidly growing about the global outbreak of a novel strain of coronavirus (“COVID-19” or “coronavirus”). The virus has spread rapidly across the globe, including the U.S. The pandemic is having an unprecedented impact on the U.S. economy as federal, state and local governments react to this public health crisis, which has created significant uncertainties. These uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the potential adverse effect of the pandemic on the economy, our licensees, customer sentiment in general, and temporary closing of stores containing our brands. As the pandemic continues to grow, consumer fear about becoming ill with the virus and recommendations and/or mandates from federal, state and local authorities to avoid large gatherings of people or self-quarantine may continue to increase, which has already affected, and may continue to affect, retailers, as well as our licensees who sell to these retailers. We are unable to predict when retailers who have temporarily closed stores will reopen or if additional periods of store closures will be needed or mandated. Continued impacts of the pandemic could materially adversely affect our near-term and long-term revenues, earnings, liquidity and cash flows as our licensees may request temporary relief, delay or not make scheduled payments. COVID-19 is adversely impacting sales in the apparel and accessories industry. Diminished sales of products bearing our brands may have an adverse effect on the estimated fair value of our intangible assets, including our trademarks. The extent of the impact of the pandemic on our business and financial results will depend largely on future developments, including the duration of the spread of the outbreak within the U.S., the impact on capital and financial markets and the related impact on consumer confidence and spending, all of which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted. This situation is changing rapidly, and additional impacts may arise that we are not aware of currently. The potential impact of COVID-19 intensifies the business and operating risks that we face and should be considered when reading the additional risk factors below.

Natural disasters, public health crises, political crises, and other catastrophic events or other events outside of our control may damage the facilities of our licensees on which we depend and could impact consumer spending.

If any of our licensees facilities, including manufacturing, finishing or distribution facilities, or the facilities of our suppliers, third-party service providers, or customers, is affected by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, power shortages or outages, floods or monsoons, public health crises, such as pandemics and epidemics, political crises, such as terrorism, war, political instability or other conflict, or other events outside of our control, it could have an adverse effect on our business. Disasters occurring at our licensees’ facilities also could impact our reputation and our consumers’ perception of our brands. Moreover, these types of events could negatively impact consumer spending in the impacted regions or depending upon the severity, globally, which could adversely impact our results of operations. In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus outbreak originating in Wuhan, China to be a global pandemic. Certain licensees have been and may continue to be adversely impacted by the coronavirus outbreak due to manufacturing facility closures, store closures and a decrease in consumer traffic. Although the coronavirus outbreak is an ongoing phenomenon with uncertain scale, to date the outbreak has had severe global macroeconomic and financial market impacts. The impact of the coronavirus on consumer demand and on our results of operations remain uncertain; however, such impacts may be significant.

The failure of our licensees to fulfill their financial obligations with respect to royalty payments under their license agreements or to otherwise adequately produce, market and sell products bearing our brand names in their license categories could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our revenues are almost entirely dependent on royalty payments made to us pursuant to license agreements entered into with licensees of our brands. These license agreements often require that licensees advance payment to us of a portion of the sales royalty payments due thereunder and, in most cases, provide for guaranteed minimum royalty payments. The failure of our licensees to satisfy their financial obligations under these agreements, or their inability to operate successfully or at all, could result in a breach of an agreement, early termination of an agreement, non-renewal of an agreement or an amendment of an agreement to reduce the guaranteed minimum royalty payments or sales royalties due thereunder, each of which could eliminate some or all of that revenue stream. A decrease or elimination of revenue could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

During the term of a license agreement, our revenues and the value of our brands substantially depend upon our licensees' ability to maintain the quality and marketability and market acceptance of the branded products licensed to such licensee and their failure to do so could negatively affect consumer perception of our brands and harm our future growth and prospects. Further, the failure of our licensees to meet their production, manufacturing and distribution requirements, or a weak economy or softness in the retail, apparel or home goods sectors, could cause our licensees to default on their obligations to make guaranteed minimum royalty payments to us or cause a decline in their sales and potentially decrease the amount of royalty payments in excess of guaranteed minimum royalty payments due to us. In addition, our licensees' inability to maintain market acceptance of our brands or our failure to monitor our licensees' compliance with their license agreements or take appropriate corrective action when necessary may subject our intellectual property assets to cancellation, loss of rights or devaluation and any devaluation of our trademarks or other intellectual property could cause a material impairment in the carrying value of such intellectual property, potentially resulting in a charge as an expense to our results of operations. If such developments occur or our licensees are otherwise not successful, the value and recognition of our brands, as well as our business, financial condition and results of operations, could be materially adversely affected.

Our business depends on continued market acceptance of our brands and the products bearing these brands.

The retail industry is highly susceptible to changes in consumer preferences and continued market acceptance of our brands and our licensees' products, as well as market acceptance of any future products bearing our brands and is subject to a high degree of uncertainty. In order to generate revenues and profits, our licensees must develop product offerings that appeal to consumers. We retain rights to monitor the products our licensees' design and produce and may retain the right to preview and approve such products, we cannot assure you that licensees will develop, market and sell products that appeal to consumers. Any significant changes in consumer preferences or any inability on our licensees' part to anticipate or react to such changes could reduce demand for our branded products and erode the competitiveness of such products, which would negatively affect our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

The continued success of our brands and branded products and market acceptance of new products and product categories also depend on our ability to continually improve the effectiveness of our marketing efforts. We devote significant resources and expenditures to promoting our brands and new product launches, but there can be no assurance as to our continued ability to effectively execute our marketing programs. To the extent our licensees misjudge the market for our brands and branded products, or our marketing efforts are unsuccessful, our business, results of operations and prospects will be adversely affected.

We have incurred a substantial amount of indebtedness in connection with our acquisitions, which could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

As of December 31, 2019, we had outstanding net indebtedness of \$446.0 million, as described more fully in Note 9 to our consolidated financial statements.

Our high level of indebtedness increases the possibility that we may be unable to generate cash sufficient to pay when due the principal of, interest on or other amounts due in respect of such indebtedness.

In addition, we may incur additional debt from time to time to finance strategic acquisitions, investments, joint ventures or for other purposes, subject to the restrictions contained in the documents that govern our indebtedness. If we incur additional debt, the risks associated with our leverage, including our ability to service debt, would increase.

Our increased level of indebtedness could have other important consequences, which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations could be required to pay principal and interest on our debt;
- our interest expense could increase if interest rates increase because our borrowings generally bear interest at floating rates;
- our leverage could increase our vulnerability to general economic downturns and adverse competitive and industry conditions, placing us at a disadvantage compared to those of our competitors that are less leveraged;
- our debt service obligations could limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and in the brand licensing industry;
- our failure to comply with the financial and other restrictive covenants in the documents governing our indebtedness could result in an event of default that, if not cured or waived, results in foreclosure on substantially all of our assets; and
- our level of debt may restrict us from raising additional financing on satisfactory terms to fund strategic acquisitions, investments, joint ventures and other general corporate requirements.

We cannot be certain that our earnings will be sufficient to allow us to pay principal and interest on our debt and meet our other obligations. In particular, we do not know at this time what the effects will be of the coronavirus pandemic, including the effects of our licensees requesting delaying payments or failing to make payments to us. If we do not have sufficient earnings, we may be required to seek to refinance all or part of our then existing debt, sell assets, make additional borrowings or sell more securities, none of which we can guarantee that we will be able to do and which, if accomplished, may adversely affect us.

We are subject to a number of restrictive covenants under our debt arrangements, including customary operating restrictions and customary financial covenants. Our business, financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected if we are unable to maintain compliance with such covenants.

Our outstanding debt is generally guaranteed jointly and severally by each of our domestic subsidiaries. Our and our subsidiaries' obligations under the Debt Facilities (as defined in Note 9 to our consolidated financial statements) and the associated guarantees are secured, in each case, by first priority liens (subject, in the case of the Amended KKR Credit Agreement, to the liens under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement on, and security interests in, substantially all of the present and after acquired assets of us and each of our subsidiaries, subject to certain customary exceptions). The Debt Facilities contain a number of restrictive covenants, representations and warranties, including representations relating to the intellectual property owned by us and our subsidiaries and the status of our material license agreements. In addition, the Debt Facilities include covenants and events of default, including, in the case of the Amended BoA Credit Agreement, requirements that we (i) maintain a positive net income (as defined), (ii) satisfy a maximum loan to value ratio (as calculated pursuant to the Amended BoA Credit Agreement) and (iii) satisfy a maximum consolidated first lien leverage ratio (as calculated pursuant to the Amended BoA Credit Amendment), and, in the case of the Amended KKR Credit Agreement, to satisfy (i) a maximum consolidated total leverage ratio (as calculated pursuant to the Amended KKR Credit Agreement) and (ii) a maximum consolidated first lien leverage ratio (as calculated pursuant to the Amended KKR Credit Agreement).

If our business, financial condition or results of operations are adversely affected by one or more of the risk factors described in this Annual Report on Form 10-K or elsewhere in our filings with the SEC, including by the effect of coronavirus, we may be unable to maintain compliance with these financial covenants. If we fail to comply with such covenants, our lenders could demand immediate payment of

amounts outstanding. Under such circumstances, we would need to seek alternative financing sources to fund our ongoing operations and to repay amounts outstanding and satisfy our other obligations under our existing borrowing and financing arrangements. Such financing may not be available on favorable terms, or at all. Consequently, we may be restricted in how we fund ongoing operations and strategic initiatives and deploy capital and in our ability to make acquisitions. As a result, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be further adversely affected if we are unable to maintain compliance with our debt covenants.

We or our licensees may not be able to continue to compete successfully because of intense competition within our licensees' markets, the strength of some of their competitors or other factors.

Our trademark licenses are for products primarily in the apparel, footwear, fashion and home accessories markets, in which our licensees face intense competition. Competitive factors in these markets include design, quality, price, style, name recognition, service and advertising. Changing customer preferences and the limited availability of shelf space can adversely affect the competitive position of our licensees' products. Many of our licensees' competitors have greater financial, distribution, marketing and other resources than our licensees and have achieved significant name recognition for their brands. Our licensees may be unable to successfully compete in the markets for their products, which would adversely affect our revenues and cash flows, and we may not be able to continue to compete successfully with respect to our licensing arrangements.

We and our licensees are subject to risks and uncertainties relating to operating outside of the United States, foreign manufacturing and the price, availability and quality of raw materials, which could result in interruptions to their operations or increase their operating costs, thereby affecting their ability to deliver goods to the market, reducing or delaying their sales and decreasing our revenues.

We market and license our brands outside the United States, and many of our licensees operate outside the United States. We face numerous risks in doing business outside the United States, including: (i) unusual or burdensome foreign laws or regulatory requirements or unexpected changes to those laws or requirements; (ii) tariffs, trade protection measures, import or export licensing requirements, trade embargoes, sanctions and other trade barriers; (iii) competition from foreign companies; (iv) less effective and less predictable protection and enforcement of our intellectual property; (v) changes in the political or economic condition of a specific country or region (including, without limitation, as a result of political unrest), particularly in emerging markets; (vi) fluctuations in the value of foreign currency versus the U.S. dollar and the cost of currency exchange; (vii) potentially adverse tax consequences; and (viii) cultural differences in the conduct of business. Any one or more of such factors could impact current or future international sales of our brands or inhibit our ability to expand internationally. In addition, our business practices in international markets are subject to the requirements of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and all other applicable anti-bribery laws, any violation of which could subject us to significant fines, criminal sanctions and other penalties.

Further, a significant portion of the products sold by our licensees are manufactured overseas. There are substantial risks associated with foreign manufacturing, including (i) changes in laws relating to quotas, and the payment of tariffs and duties, (ii) fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, (iii) shipping delays and (iv) international political, regulatory and economic developments. Further, our licensees may experience fluctuations in the price, availability and quality of fabrics and raw materials used by them in their manufactured apparel or purchased finished goods. Any of these risks could increase our licensees' operating costs. Our licensees also import finished products and assume all risk of loss and damage with respect to these goods once they are shipped by their suppliers. If these goods are destroyed or damaged during shipment, the revenues of our licensees could be reduced as a result of our licensees' inability to deliver or their delay in delivering their products. A reduction in the revenues generated by our licensees would reduce the amount of our royalty revenues in excess of guaranteed minimum royalty payments and, in extreme circumstances, result in failures to make guaranteed minimum royalty payments to us.

A substantial portion of our licensing revenue is concentrated with a limited number of licensees and retail partners, such that the loss of a licensee or retail partner could materially decrease our revenue and cash flows.

Our licensing revenues are concentrated with a limited number of licensees and retail partners. During the year ended December 31, 2019, three licensees represented at least 10% of net revenue, accounting for

19%, 16% and 14% of the Company's net revenue from continuing operations. During the year ended December 31, 2018, three licensees represented at least 10% of net revenue, accounting for 18%, 12% and 11% of the Company's net revenue from continuing operations. Our revenue and cash flows would be materially and adversely affected if any of them were to have financial difficulties affecting their ability to make payments, elected not to renew or extend any existing license agreements or arrangements with us or significantly reduced their sales of these licensed products under any of these license agreements or arrangements, and we were not able to replace the revenue generated by such licensees.

We may not be able to adequately protect our intellectual property rights, which could compromise our competitive position and decrease the value of our brands.

We own, through our subsidiaries, U.S. federal trademark registrations and foreign trademark registrations for our brands that are vital to the success and further growth of our business. In addition, we own domestic, foreign and international intellectual property registrations for the technology and designs incorporated into *Heelys* wheeled footwear and *Gaiam* yoga products. The loss of or inability to enforce our proprietary rights could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition. For instance, if any third party independently develops similar products to those marketed and distributed by our licensees or manufactures knock-offs of such products, it may harm the reputation of our brands, decrease their value or cause a decline in our licensees' sales and thus our revenues. Additionally, the laws of foreign countries may provide inadequate protection for intellectual property rights, making it difficult to enforce such rights in those countries.

We may need to bring legal claims to enforce or protect our intellectual property rights. Any litigation, whether successful or unsuccessful, could result in substantial costs and diversions of resources and negatively impact our business operations. In addition, notwithstanding the rights we have secured in our intellectual property, third parties may bring claims against us or our licensees alleging that we or our licensees have infringed on their intellectual property rights or that our or our licensees' intellectual property rights are not valid. Any claims against us or our licensees, with or without merit, could be time consuming and costly to defend or litigate and therefore could adversely affect our business. In addition, to the extent that any of our intellectual property assets is deemed to violate the proprietary rights of third parties in any litigation or proceeding or as a result of any claim, then we and our licensees may be prevented from using it, which could cause a breach or termination of license agreements. If our licensees are prevented from using the intellectual property we have licensed to them, the revenues of our licensees will be reduced with respect to those intellectual property assets, and the related royalty payments we receive could be reduced. Litigation with respect to our intellectual property or breaches of our license agreements could result in a judgment or monetary damages.

We depend upon the services of our key executives, including our Chief Executive Officer, Mr. David Conn. If we lose the services of Mr. David Conn or other key executives, we may not be able to fully implement our business plan and future growth strategy, which would harm our business and prospects.

Our success is largely dependent upon the expertise and knowledge of our Chief Executive Officer, Mr. David Conn, and other key members of the executive team, whom we rely upon to formulate our business strategies. Our key executives' leadership and experience in the licensing industry is important to the successful implementation of our business and marketing strategy. We do not carry key person life insurance covering our key executives. The loss of the services of our key executives could have a material adverse effect on our business prospects, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Our results of operations may fluctuate significantly, which may make it difficult to predict our performance and result in volatility in our stock price.

We have in the past experienced substantial variations in our revenue and results of operations from quarter to quarter, and we expect to continue to experience such substantial variations. This variability is affected by numerous factors, including:

- the timing of the introduction of new licensed products by our licensees;
- the level of consumer acceptance of our brands and licensed products;

- seasonality resulting in higher revenues in the second half of the year;
- general economic and industry conditions that affect consumer spending and retailer purchasing;
- the availability of viable licensees that meet our brand criteria; and
- the timing of marketing expenditures.

Because of these fluctuations in our revenues, operating expenses and cash flows it may be difficult to make period-to-period comparisons of our result of operations and liquidity and it may be difficult for securities analysts and investors to predict our performance. As a result, our results of operations in any particular quarter may be below the expectations of securities analysts or investors. Fluctuations in our performance and the failure to meet analyst expectations could cause declines or volatility in our stock price.

Demand for our brands and branded products may be materially and adversely affected by reductions in disposable income, which in turn depends on general economic conditions and the global economy.

Our performance is subject to worldwide economic conditions and their impact on levels of consumer spending that affect not only the ultimate consumer, but also retailers and distributors, who license our brands. Consumer spending has fluctuated significantly and may become depressed or be subject to deterioration in the near future. The worldwide apparel and consumer products industries are heavily influenced by general economic cycles. Purchases of apparel, footwear and accessories tend to decline in periods of recession or uncertainty regarding future economic prospects, as disposable income declines. During periods of recession or economic uncertainty, our licensees may not be able to maintain or increase sales of our branded products to existing customers, make sales to new customers, open or operate new retail stores or maintain sales levels at existing stores as consumers may shift discretionary income spending to other areas other than our licensee's products. As a result, our results of operations may be adversely and materially affected by downward trends in the United States or global economy.

The market price of our common stock has declined significantly and may be volatile, which could reduce the demand for our common stock.

The publicly traded shares of our common stock have experienced, and may continue to experience, significant price fluctuations, ranging between \$2.48 and \$0.22 during our last two fiscal years. Due to the continued, sustained decline in our stock price during 2017, we recorded a goodwill impairment charge of \$304.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2017. See Note 8 to our consolidated financial statements for further information on our goodwill impairment. Future decreases or volatility in our stock price could reduce demand for our common stock, regardless of our operating performance. The trading price of our common stock could also change significantly over short periods of time in response to write-downs or actual or anticipated variations in our quarterly results of operations, announcements by us, our licensees or our respective competitors, factors affecting our licensees' markets generally or changes in national or regional economic conditions.

Our largest stockholders control a significant percentage of our common stock and are represented on our board of directors, which may enable such stockholders, alone or together with our other significant stockholders, to exert influence over corporate transactions and other matters affecting the rights of our stockholders.

As of March 23, 2020, Tengram Capital Partners Gen2 Fund, L.P. ("Tengram") beneficially owns approximately 11.6%, Carlyle Galaxy Holdings, L.P. ("Carlyle") beneficially owns approximately 9.7% and Ms. Martha Stewart beneficially owns approximately 12.5% of our outstanding shares of common stock. Mr. William Sweedler, chairman of our board of directors, is a principal of Tengram and Ms. Martha Stewart became a director in connection with the closing of the Mergers and remained a director post the sale of MSLO. As a result, each of Tengram, Carlyle and Ms. Martha Stewart, individually or collectively, are able to exercise substantial influence over our board of directors and matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors and approval of significant corporate actions, such as mergers and other business combination transactions.

Circumstances may occur in which the interests of these stockholders could conflict with the interests of our other stockholders. The voting power of these stockholders also could discourage others from seeking to acquire control of us, which may reduce the market price of our common stock.

We may be deemed a former shell company and therefore resales of shares of our restricted common stock in reliance on Rule 144 may be subject to additional requirements and Rule 144 may be unavailable at all if we fail to comply with our reporting obligations.

From time to time we have issued shares of our common stock in transactions exempt from registration requirements, and such shares are “restricted securities” within the meaning of Rule 144. Rule 144 generally permits the resale, subject to various terms and conditions, of restricted securities after they have been held for six months. However, one of our predecessors was a former shell company and, as a result, securities laws also might deem us to be a former shell company. If we are deemed a former shell company, Rule 144 may be unavailable for resales of our restricted common stock unless we have satisfied certain reporting requirements under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), for the twelve months preceding the time of sale. However, we cannot assure you that future reports or other materials will be filed as necessary to maintain the availability of the exemption under Rule 144. If we are deemed a former shell company and we fail to comply with our reporting obligations under the Exchange Act, Rule 144 will be unavailable to holders of our restricted common stock, which may limit the holders’ ability to sell such restricted shares. In addition, because of the on-going reporting requirements under Rule 144, restrictive legends on certificates for shares of our common stock cannot be removed except in connection with an actual sale that is subject to an effective registration statement under, or an applicable exemption from the registration requirements of, the Securities Act.

While we audit our licensees from time to time in the ordinary course, we otherwise rely on the accuracy of our licensees’ retail sales reports for reporting and collecting our revenues, and if these reports are untimely or incorrect, our revenue could be delayed or inaccurately reported.

Under our existing agreements, our licensees pay us licensing fees based in part on the retail value of products sold. We rely on our licensees to accurately report the retail sales in collecting our license fees, preparing our financial reports, projections, budgets, and directing our sales and marketing efforts. Our license agreements permit us to audit our licensees. If any of our licensee reports understate the retail sales of products they sell, we may not collect and recognize revenue to which we are entitled, or may endure significant expense to obtain compliance.

We do not foresee paying dividends in the foreseeable future.

We have not paid dividends on our common stock and do not anticipate paying dividends in the foreseeable future. Instead, we plan to retain any earnings to maintain and expand our existing licensing operations, further develop our brands and finance the acquisition of additional brands.

We have a significant amount of intangible assets, including our trademarks, recorded on our balance sheet. As a result of changes in market conditions and declines in the estimated fair value of these assets, we have been required to write-down all of our goodwill and a portion of our other intangible assets and may be required to record impairments of our intangible assets in the future which could adversely affect our results of operations.

As of December 31, 2019, intangible assets represented \$600 million, or 82.9% of our total consolidated assets. Under current accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“GAAP”), indefinite-lived intangible assets are not amortized, but instead are subject to impairment evaluation based on related estimated fair values, with such testing to be done at least annually. Our trademarks are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Any write-down of intangible assets resulting from future periodic evaluations would, as applicable, either decrease our net income or increase our net loss and those decreases or increases could be material. We recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$33.1 million and \$17.9 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets for certain brands in the third quarter of 2019 and 2018, respectively; the impairments arose due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands. Due to the continued, sustained decline in our stock price, we recorded a goodwill impairment charge of \$304.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2017. See Note 7 and Note 8 to our consolidated financial statements for further information on these impairment charges.

Our use of certain tax attributes may be limited.

We have significant net operating losses (“NOLs”). A valuation allowance has been provided as of December 31, 2019 which primarily relates to state net operating losses and capital loss carryforwards. As of December 31, 2019, we have federal NOLs available to carryforward to future periods of \$107.8 million which begin expiring in 2029 and we have state NOLs available to carryforward to future periods of \$179 million which begin expiring in 2020. We have foreign tax credits available to carryforward to future periods of \$0.5 million as of December 31, 2019 which begin expiring in 2020. We have experienced several changes of ownership under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) which place various limitations on the use of NOLs. The limitation on NOLs is based upon a formula provided under Section 382 of the Code that utilizes the fair market value of us and prevailing interest rates at the time of the ownership change. An “ownership change” is generally a 50% increase in ownership over a three-year period by stockholders who directly or indirectly own at least five percent of a company’s stock. The limitations on the use of the NOLs under Section 382 could affect our ability to offset future taxable income.

We may be a party to litigation in the normal course of business, which could affect our financial position and liquidity.

From time to time, we may be made a party to litigation in the normal course of business. For example, as the owner of a trademark, we may be named as a defendant in a lawsuit relating to a product designed and manufactured by a licensee of that trademark. If we are alleged to have infringed the intellectual property rights of another party, any resulting litigation could be costly and could damage our reputation. Litigation also diverts the time and resources of management, regardless of the merits of the claim. In most cases, our licensees under the existing license agreements are obligated to defend and indemnify us, as licensor, and our affiliates with respect to such litigation. We also maintain insurance for certain risks, but it is not possible to obtain insurance to protect against all possible liabilities. Although historically the litigation involving us has not been material to our financial position or our liquidity, any litigation has an element of uncertainty and if any such litigation were to be adversely determined and/or a licensee were to fail to properly indemnify us and/or we did not have appropriate insurance coverage, such litigation could affect our financial position and liquidity.

Because the bid price of our ordinary shares is below the minimum requirement for the Nasdaq Capital Market, we cannot assure you that our common stock will continue to trade on that market or another national securities exchange.

On June 5, 2019, we received a notice from Nasdaq Stock Market (“Nasdaq”) stating that, for the prior 30 consecutive trading days, the closing bid price for our common stock was below the minimum of \$1.00 per share required for continued listing on the exchange. The notification letter stated that we would be afforded 180 calendar days, or until December 2, 2019, to regain compliance with the minimum bid price requirement. In order to regain compliance with the listing standards, the closing bid price for our common stock must be at least \$1.00 for 10 consecutive trading days. We have considered our available options to regain compliance, including whether to effect a reverse stock split. We cannot assure you about whether we will be able to regain compliance with Nasdaq listing requirements. If we are unable to do so and our common stock is no longer listed on Nasdaq or another national securities exchange, the liquidity and market price of our common stock may be adversely affected. On February 11, 2020, the stockholders approved the vote to effect a reverse stock split of our issued and outstanding common stock at a ratio of 1 share-for-10 shares up to a ratio of 1 share-for-40 shares, to be determined by our Board of Directors.

Our business, financial condition and results of operations could suffer in the event of security breaches, cyber-attacks or unauthorized disclosures of personal information.

In conducting their business, including their e-commerce business, our licensees and retail partners obtain and transmit confidential information about their customers, including credit card information, through their websites and their information technology systems. If our licensees or retail partners experience such a security breach or cyber-attack, it could adversely affect their business and operations, including damaging their reputation and their relationships with their customers, exposing them to risks of litigation

and liability including under data privacy laws and regulations, all of which could have a material adverse effect on their ability to meet their minimum net sales requirements and to make guaranteed minimum royalty payments to us in accordance with the terms of their respective license agreements. We cannot assure you that our licensees and retail partners will not experience any future security breaches, cyber-attacks or unauthorized disclosures. In addition, as a result of recent security breaches at a number of prominent retailers, the media and public scrutiny of information security and privacy has become more intense and the regulatory environment has become more uncertain. As a result, our licensees and retail partners may incur significant costs to comply with laws regarding the protection and unauthorized disclosure of personal information, which could also negatively affect their ability to generate sales and make royalty payments to us, resulting in a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are subject to risks and uncertainties related to our strategic review.

On October 7, 2019, we announced that our Board of Directors has initiated a broad review of strategic alternatives focused on maximizing shareholder value. Such strategic alternatives may include the divestiture of one or more existing brands, the acquisition of one or more new brands, a stock buyback program, and other initiatives. We also announced that the Board had engaged Stifel to serve as financial advisor to assist in this process. We cannot assure you that the review of strategic alternatives will result in any transaction, and the process of exploring strategic alternatives will involve the dedication of significant resources and the incurrence of significant costs and expenses. In addition, speculation and uncertainty regarding the strategic review process may cause or result in disruption of our business; distraction of our employees; difficulty in recruiting, hiring, motivating, and retaining talented and skilled personnel; difficulty in maintaining or negotiating and consummating new business or strategic relationships or transactions; and increased stock price volatility. If we are unable to mitigate these or other potential risks related to the uncertainty caused by the strategic review process, it may adversely affect our business or adversely impact our net sales, operating results, and financial condition.

Changes in the U.S. trade environment, including the imposition of import tariffs, could adversely affect the amount or timing of our revenues, results of operations or cash flows.

The U.S. government has proposed, and in some case, implemented new or higher tariffs on specified imported products, and certain governments have responded by proposing new or higher tariffs on specified products imported from the United States (including, but not limited to, the Trump Administration's tariffs on China and China's retaliatory tariffs on certain products from the U.S.). These tariffs, which do not apply directly to our branding business, may materially and adversely affect our licensees by imposing tariffs on goods they import. The imposition of tariffs may negatively affect key licensees or the suppliers, manufacturers and customers of goods produced under our trademarks. For example, tariffs may result in or have resulted in increasing our licensees' costs to produce goods and decrease their sales and gross margins and demand for their products. Such outcomes could adversely affect the amount or timing of our revenues, results of operations or cash flows, and continuing uncertainty about changes in the U.S. trade environment could cause our licensees to experience sales volatility, price fluctuations or supply shortages or advances or delays in the manufacture and sale of products produced under our trademarks.

Changes in the method for determining LIBOR and the potential replacement of the LIBOR benchmark interest rate could increase our borrowing costs.

Some of our borrowings bear interest at a variable rate based on LIBOR. In July 2017, the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"), a regulator of financial services firms and financial markets in the United Kingdom, stated that it will plan for a phase out of regulatory oversight of LIBOR interest rates indices. The FCA has indicated they will support the LIBOR indices through 2021, to allow for an orderly transition to an alternative reference rate. The Alternative Reference Rates Committee has proposed the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") as its recommended alternative to LIBOR, and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York began publishing SOFR rates in April 2018. SOFR is intended to be a broad measure of the cost of borrowing cash overnight collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities.

We are evaluating the potential impact of the eventual replacement of the LIBOR benchmark interest rate, including the possibility of SOFR as the dominant replacement. Introduction of an alternative rate

also may introduce additional basis risk for market participants as an alternative index is utilized along with LIBOR. There can be no guarantee that SOFR will become widely used and that alternatives may or may not be developed with additional complications. We are not able to predict whether LIBOR will cease to be available after 2021, whether SOFR will become a widely accepted benchmark in place of LIBOR, or what the impact of such a possible transition to SOFR may have on our results of operations.

Risks Related to Our Acquisitions

If we are unable to identify and successfully acquire additional brands or to finance the acquisition of such brands, our rate of growth may be reduced and, even if additional trademarks are acquired, we may not realize anticipated benefits due to integration or licensing difficulties.

A key component of our growth strategy is the acquisition of additional brands. In 2016, we acquired *GAIAM*, and in 2015, we acquired *Jessica Simpson* and *Joe's* and are continually exploring new acquisition opportunities. However, we face extensive competition for new brand acquisitions, both from other brand management companies as well as traditional consumer brand companies, retailers and private equity groups, which could increase the price of the acquisitions and make it more difficult for us to find suitable acquisition targets. In addition, even if we successfully acquire additional brands or the rights to use additional brands, we may not be able to achieve or maintain profitability levels that justify our investment in, or realize planned benefits with respect to, those additional brands.

Although we seek to temper our acquisition risks, all acquisitions, whether they are of additional intellectual property assets or of the companies that own them, entail numerous risks, any of which could detrimentally affect our results of operations and/or the value of our equity. These risks include, among others:

- unanticipated costs associated with the target acquisition;
- negative effects on reported results of operations from acquisition related charges and amortization of acquired intangibles;
- diversion of management's attention from other business concerns;
- the challenges of maintaining focus on, and continuing to execute, core strategies and business plans as our brand and license portfolio grows and becomes more diversified;
- inability to find suitable licensees for our newly acquired brands;
- adverse effects on our existing licensing relationships, including our existing licensees terminating their license agreements with us;
- potential difficulties associated with the retention of key employees and the assimilation of any other employees, who may be retained by us in connection with or as a result of our acquisitions; and
- risks of entering new domestic and international markets (whether it be with respect to new licensed product categories or new licensed product distribution channels) or markets in which we have limited prior experience.

In the event we acquire intellectual property assets or the companies that own them, our due diligence reviews are subject to inherent uncertainties and may not reveal all potential risks. We may therefore fail to discover or inaccurately assess undisclosed or contingent liabilities, including liabilities for which we may have responsibility as a successor to the seller or the target company. In addition, as a successor, we may be responsible for any past or continuing violations of law by the seller or the target company. Although we generally attempt to seek contractual protections through representations, warranties and indemnities, we cannot be sure that we will obtain such provisions in our acquisitions or that such provisions will fully protect us from all unknown, contingent or other liabilities or costs. Finally, claims against us relating to any acquisition may necessitate our seeking claims against the seller for which the seller may not, or may not be able to, indemnify us or that may exceed the scope, duration or amount of the seller's indemnification obligations.

Acquiring additional brands could also have a significant effect on our financial condition and could cause substantial fluctuations in our liquidity, cash balances and quarterly and yearly results of operations. Acquisitions could result in the recording of significant goodwill and intangible assets on our financial statements, the amortization or impairment of which would reduce our reported earnings in subsequent years. We cannot make assurances with respect to the timing, likelihood or financial or business effect of any possible transaction. Moreover, our ability to grow through the acquisition of additional brands will also depend on the availability of capital to complete the necessary acquisition arrangements. We may elect to pursue acquisitions through debt financing or the issuance of shares of our common stock or convertible securities. The use of equity as transaction consideration could dilute our common stock, reduce our earnings per share or reduce the market price of our common stock. We cannot guarantee that our stockholders will achieve greater returns as a result of any future acquisitions we complete.

We may not realize all of the anticipated benefits of our acquisitions or those benefits may take longer to realize than expected.

Our ability to realize the anticipated benefits of our acquisitions depends, to a large extent, on our ability to implement changes to acquired businesses in a manner that facilitates growth opportunities and realizes anticipated synergies. We will be required to devote significant management attention, resources and costs to realigning the business practices and operations of acquired businesses to our brand management model. We generally expect to benefit from operational synergies from our acquisitions resulting from the consolidation of capabilities and elimination of redundancies, as well as greater efficiencies from increased scale and market integration. However, this process may preclude or impede realization of the benefits expected from acquisitions and could adversely affect current revenues and investments in future growth, which could adversely affect our results of operations. We cannot be certain that we will not be required to implement further realignment activities, make additions or other changes to our workforce based on other cost reduction measures or changes in the markets and industry in which we compete. In addition, future business conditions and events may impact our ability to continue to realize any benefits of these initiatives. If we are not able to successfully achieve these objectives, the anticipated benefits of our acquisitions may not be realized fully or at all or may take longer to realize than expected.

The failure to successfully integrate new businesses and operations as a result of acquisitions may adversely affect our future results.

Businesses that we have acquired or may acquire in the future have operated historically as independent companies. We may face significant challenges in consolidating certain businesses and functions of these businesses, integrating their organizations, procedures, policies and operations, addressing differences in the business cultures and retaining key personnel. The integration process and other disruptions resulting from the business combinations mentioned above may also disrupt each company's ongoing businesses or cause inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies that adversely affect our relationships with employees, business partners, customers and others with whom we have business or other dealings, or limit our ability to achieve the anticipated benefits of the acquisitions. In addition, difficulties in integrating the businesses mentioned above could harm our reputation.

If we are not able to successfully combine our businesses in an efficient, effective and timely manner, the anticipated benefits and cost savings of the acquisitions may not be realized fully, or at all, or may take longer to realize than expected, and the value of our common stock may be affected adversely.

Our success depends in part on the continued success of our celebrity based brands and the reputation and popularity of those celebrities. Any adverse reactions to publicity relating to those celebrities, or the loss of their services, could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations as well as our ability to maintain or generate a consumer base.

We believe that maintaining and enhancing our celebrity based brands is important to our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our celebrity based brands may be negatively impacted by a number of factors, including the reputation of its content and products, the uniqueness and relevance of celebrity branded content, and the reputation and popularity of those celebrities. If we fail to maintain and

enhance these brands, or if excessive expenses are incurred in an effort to do so, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Moreover, we believe our celebrities' image, reputation, popularity and talent are material to the success of their brand. Any repeated or sustained negative shifts in public or industry perceptions of such celebrities could have a material adverse effect on these brands and, consequently, our business.

We may require additional capital to finance the acquisition of additional brands, and our inability to raise such capital on beneficial terms or at all could limit our growth.

We may, in the future, require additional capital to help fund all or part of potential acquisitions. If, at the time required, we do not have sufficient cash to finance those additional capital needs, we will need to raise additional funds through equity and/or debt financing. We cannot guarantee that, if and when needed, additional financing will be available to us on acceptable terms or at all. If additional capital is needed and is either unavailable or cost prohibitive, our growth may be limited as we may need to change our business strategy to slow the rate of, or eliminate, our expansion plans. In addition, any additional financing we undertake could impose additional covenants upon us that restrict our operating flexibility, and, if we issue equity securities to raise capital, our existing stockholders may experience dilution or the new securities may have rights senior to those of our common stock.

We expect to incur transaction costs in connection with our acquisitions.

We have incurred and expect to continue to incur significant costs and expenses in connection with past and future acquisitions, including financial advisory, legal, accounting, consulting and other advisory fees and expenses, reorganization and restructuring costs, litigation defense costs, severance/employee benefit-related expenses, filing fees, printing expenses and other related charges. There are also a large number of processes, policies, procedures, operations, technologies and systems that must be integrated in connection with our acquisitions. There are many factors beyond our control that could affect the total amount or timing of the integration and implementation expenses. These costs and expenses could reduce the benefits and income we expect to achieve from our acquisitions.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

Our principal offices are located at 601 West 26th Street, 9th Floor — Suite 915, New York, New York 10001, and our telephone number is (646) 564-2577.

We lease the following properties as of December 31, 2019:

Location	Type	Square Footage (Approximate)	Expiration Date
New York, NY	Corporate Headquarters	82,300	December 31, 2033
New York, NY	Office and Showroom	10,900	September 12, 2024
Los Angeles, CA	Office	4,724	July 31, 2020

We believe that the facilities we utilize are well maintained, in good operating condition and adequate to meet our current and foreseeable needs.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

General Legal Matters

From time to time, we are involved in legal matters arising in the ordinary course of business. While we believe that such matters are currently not material, there can be no assurance that matters arising in the ordinary course of business for which we are, or could be, involved in litigation, will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. Contingent liabilities arising from potential litigation are assessed by management based on the individual analysis of these proceedings and on the opinion of our lawyers and legal consultants.

With respect to our outstanding legal matters, based on our current knowledge, we believe that the amount or range of reasonably possible loss will not, either individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations or cash flows. However, the outcome of such legal matters is inherently unpredictable and subject to significant uncertainties. Further, regardless of the outcome, litigation can have an adverse impact on us because of defense and settlement costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

Note 12 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in this Form 10-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 3.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

PART II

Item 5. Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Common Stock Trading

Our common stock trades on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “SQBG”. As of March 23, 2020, there were approximately 1,275 holders of record of our common stock.

Dividends

We have not paid or declared cash distributions or dividends on our common stock during the last two fiscal years or any subsequent interim period. We do not intend to pay cash dividends on our common stock in the near future. We currently intend to retain all earnings, if and when generated, to finance our operations. The declaration of cash dividends in the future will be determined by the Board based upon our earnings, financial condition, capital requirements, contractual obligations which may prohibit the payment of dividends, including our current or any future indebtedness, and other relevant factors. Our ability to pay dividends on our common stock and repurchase our common stock is restricted by certain of our current indebtedness and may be restricted or prohibited under future indebtedness.

Equity Compensation Plan

The table below sets forth the information regarding our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2019:

Plan category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
	(a)	(b)	(c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders ⁽¹⁾	229,501	\$12.68	—
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	N/A	N/A
Total	<u>229,501</u>		<u>—</u>

- (1) Consists of options to purchase our common stock issued under our 2005 Stock Incentive Plan (the “2005 Stock Incentive Plan”) and the Sequential Brands Group, Inc. 2013 Stock Incentive Compensation Plan (the “2013 Stock Incentive Plan”). The 2005 Stock Incentive Plan was replaced by the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan. No new grants were granted under the 2005 Stock Incentive Plan since August 2013, when the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan came into effect. For a description of our 2013 Stock Incentive Plan, see Note 14 to our consolidated financial statements.

Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

There were no sales of unregistered securities during the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K that were not previously disclosed in a Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or a Current Report on Form 8-K.

Common Stock Repurchase Programs

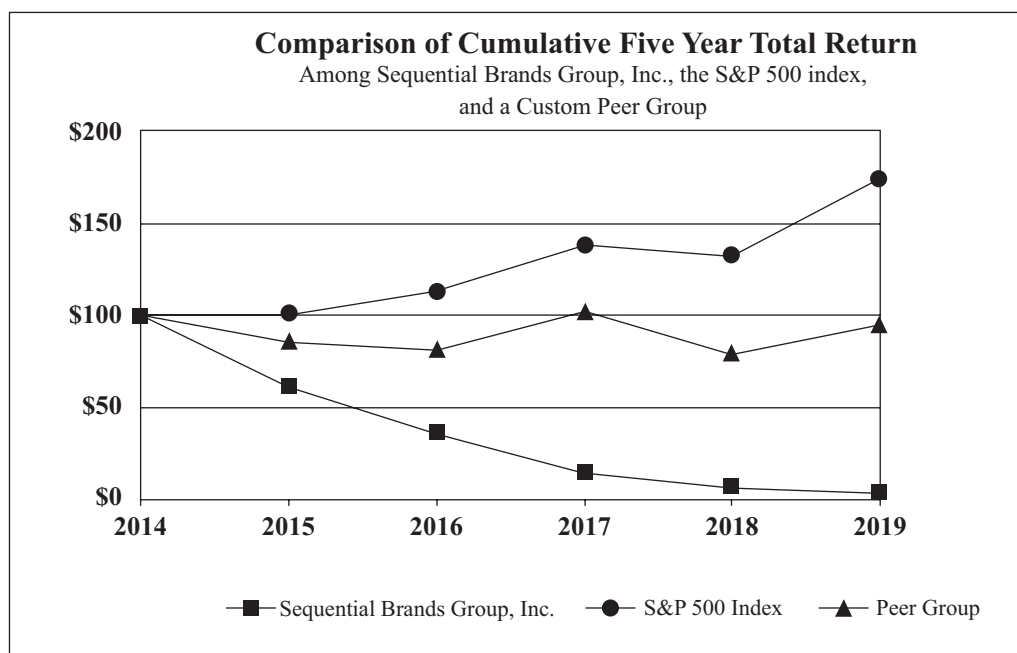
During the quarter ended December 31, 2019, we repurchased 70,275 shares of our common stock from employees for income tax withholdings related to the vesting of restricted stock. We do not currently have in place a repurchase program with respect to our common stock.

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased ⁽¹⁾	(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1 – 31	15,217	\$0.29	N/A	N/A
November 1 – 30	32,232	\$0.37	N/A	N/A
December 1 – 31	22,826	\$0.35	N/A	N/A
Total	<u>70,275</u>		<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

- (1) During the fourth quarter of 2019, 70,275 shares were purchased from employees for tax withholding purposes related to the vesting of restricted stock and restricted stock units.

Stock Performance Graph

The following graph compares the yearly percentage change in the cumulative total stockholder return on our common stock during the period beginning on December 31, 2014 and ending on December 31, 2019 with the cumulative total return on the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Index ("S&P 500") and a Custom Peer Group, which includes Carter's Inc., Apex Global Brands, Inc., Columbia Sportswear Company, Guess ? Inc., Hanesbrands, Inc., Iconix Brand Group Inc., PVH Corp. and Xcel Brands Inc. The comparison assumes that \$100 was invested on December 31, 2014 in our common stock, S&P 500 and Custom Peer Group. The stock performance shown on the graph should not be considered indicative of future performance.



Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following table presents our selected historical financial data for the periods indicated. The selected historical financial data has been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements referred to under Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K as well as prior 10-K filings. The following selected historical financial data should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto that appear elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” set forth in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The historical consolidated financial statements for Old Sequential for periods prior to the Mergers are considered to be the historical financial statements of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and thus, our consolidated financial statements for fiscal 2015 reflect Old Sequential’s consolidated financial statements for the period from January 1, 2015 through December 4, 2015. We have not declared dividends during the periods presented below.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	(in thousands, except share and per share data)				
Consolidated Statements of Operations Data:					
Net revenue	\$ 101,576	\$ 127,290	\$ 124,780	\$ 105,766	\$ 82,852
Operating expenses	61,671	60,223	53,752	57,753	47,139
Impairment charges	33,109	17,899	340,628	—	—
Loss on sale of assets	—	7,117	—	—	—
Income (loss) from operations . .	<u>6,796</u>	<u>42,051</u>	<u>(269,600)</u>	<u>48,013</u>	<u>35,713</u>
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(40,376)	(11,962)	(286,161)	(14,101)	8,488
Net loss (income) from continuing operations attributable to noncontrolling interest	<u>6,036</u>	<u>(5,506)</u>	<u>(4,172)</u>	<u>(7,452)</u>	<u>(5,287)</u>
Loss from continuing operations attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(34,340)	(17,468)	(290,333)	(21,553)	3,201
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of tax	<u>(125,063)</u>	<u>6,984</u>	<u>104,615</u>	<u>20,732</u>	<u>(6,072)</u>
Net loss attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	<u>\$ (159,403)</u>	<u>\$ (10,484)</u>	<u>\$ (185,718)</u>	<u>\$ (821)</u>	<u>\$ (2,871)</u>
Continuing operations:					
(Loss) earnings per share – basic	\$ (0.53)	\$ (0.27)	\$ (4.62)	\$ (0.35)	\$ 0.08
(Loss) earnings per share diluted	(0.53)	(0.27)	(4.62)	(0.35)	0.07
Discontinued Operations:					
(Loss) earnings per share – basic	\$ (1.93)	\$ 0.11	\$ 1.66	\$ 0.33	\$ (0.15)
(Loss) earnings per share – diluted	(1.93)	0.11	1.66	0.33	(0.15)
Loss per share attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries:					
Basic and diluted	\$ (2.46)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (2.95)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.07)
Weighted average common shares outstanding:					
Basic	<u>64,760,823</u>	<u>63,700,081</u>	<u>62,861,743</u>	<u>61,912,410</u>	<u>41,177,523</u>
Diluted	<u>64,760,823</u>	<u>64,992,059</u>	<u>63,093,437</u>	<u>62,680,182</u>	<u>43,387,116</u>

	As of December 31,				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	(in thousands)				
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:					
Cash	\$ 6,264	\$ 14,106	\$ 18,902	\$ 19,133	\$ 41,560
Working capital ^(a)	11,461	19,615	23,639	16,008	22,753
Intangible assets, net	599,967	634,827	664,984	699,901	558,265
Total assets	723,244	1,078,668	1,097,211	1,434,863	1,289,837
Long-term debt, including current portion	446,000	610,787	630,597	645,035	542,065
Total equity	173,040	344,644	353,538	537,568	525,649

(a) Net working capital is defined as current assets minus current liabilities, excluding restricted cash and discontinued operations.

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion and analysis should be read together with our consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, as well as the disclosures about forward-looking statements in Item 1 and the section "Risk Factors" contained in Item 1A. This discussion summarizes the significant factors affecting our consolidated operating results, financial condition and liquidity and cash flows for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. Except for historical information, the matters discussed in this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties and are based upon judgments concerning various factors that are beyond our control.

Licensing and Brand Management Business

We own a portfolio of consumer brands in the active and lifestyle categories, including *Jessica Simpson*, *AND1*, *Avia*, *Joe's* and *GAIAM*. We aim to maximize the value of our brands by promoting, marketing and licensing the brands through various distribution channels, including to retailers, wholesalers and distributors in the United States and in certain international territories. Our core strategy is to enhance and monetize the global reach of our existing brands, and to pursue additional strategic acquisitions to grow the scope of and diversify our portfolio of brands.

We aim to acquire well-known consumer brands with high potential for growth and strong brand awareness. We additionally seek to diversify our portfolio by evaluating the strength of targeted brands and the expected viability and sustainability of future royalty streams. Upon the acquisition of a brand, we partner with leading wholesalers and retailers to drive incremental value and maximize brand equity. We focus on certain key initiatives in our licensing and brand management business. These initiatives include:

- *Maximizing the value of our existing brands* by creating efficiencies, adding additional product categories, expanding distribution and retail presence and optimizing sales through innovative marketing that increases consumer brand awareness and loyalty;
- *Expanding through e-commerce channels*;
- *Developing international expansion* through additional licenses, partnerships and other arrangements with leading retailers and wholesalers outside the United States; and
- *Acquiring consumer brands (or the rights to such brands)* with high consumer awareness, broad appeal and applicability to a wide range of product categories.

Our business is designed to maximize the value of our brands through license agreements with partners that are responsible for manufacturing and distributing our licensed products and primarily responsible for the design of such licensed products. Our brands are licensed for a broad range of product categories, including apparel, footwear, fashion accessories and home goods. We seek to select licensees who have demonstrated the ability to produce and sell quality products in their respective licensed categories and have the capability to meet or exceed the minimum sales thresholds and guaranteed minimum royalty payments that we generally require.

We license our brands to both wholesale and direct-to-retail licensees. In a wholesale license, a wholesale supplier is granted rights (typically on an exclusive basis) to a single or small group of related product categories for a particular brand for sale to multiple accounts within an approved channel of distribution and territory. In a direct-to-retail license, a single retailer is granted the right (typically on an exclusive basis) to sell branded products in a broad range of product categories through its brick and mortar stores and e-commerce sites. As of December 31, 2019, we had approximately one hundred licensees, with wholesale licensees comprising a significant majority.

Our license agreements typically require a licensee to pay us royalties based upon net sales and, in most cases, contain guaranteed minimum royalties. Our license agreements also require licensees to support the brands by either paying or spending contractually guaranteed minimum amounts for the marketing and advertising of the respective licensed brands. As of March 23, 2020, we had contractual rights to receive an aggregate of \$208.3 million in minimum royalty and marketing and advertising revenue from our licensees through the balance of the current terms of such licenses, excluding any renewals.

Reclassification of Prior Periods

On June 10, 2019, we completed the sale of MSLO, a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, for \$166 million in cash consideration, plus additional amounts in respect of pre-closing accounts receivable that are received after the closing, subject to certain adjustments, pursuant to an equity purchase agreement (the “Purchase Agreement”) with Marquee Brands LLC (the “Buyer”) entered into on April 16, 2019. In addition, the Purchase Agreement provides for an earnout of up to \$40,000,000 payable to Sequential if certain performance targets are achieved during the three calendar years ending December 31, 2020, December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022. MSLO and its subsidiaries were engaged in the business of promoting, marketing and licensing the *Martha Stewart* and the *Emeril Lagasse* brands through various distribution channels.

Due to the sale of MSLO during the second quarter of 2019 (see Note 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Form 10-K), in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 205, *Discontinued Operations*, we have classified the results of MSLO as discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations and cash flows for all periods presented. Additionally, the related assets and liabilities directly associated with MSLO are classified as discontinued operations in our consolidated balance sheets for all periods presented. All amounts included in the notes to the consolidated financial statements relate to continuing operations unless otherwise noted.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

Refer to “Recently Issued Accounting Standards” in Note 2 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Form 10-K.

Critical Accounting Policies, Judgments and Estimates

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to exercise its judgment. We exercise considerable judgment with respect to establishing sound accounting policies and in making estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of our assets and liabilities, our recognition of revenues and expenses, and our disclosure of commitments and contingencies at the date of the financial statements. On an on-going basis, we evaluate our estimates and judgments. We base our estimates and judgments on a variety of factors, including our historical experience, knowledge of our business and industry and current and expected economic conditions, that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. We periodically re-evaluate our estimates and assumptions with respect to these judgments and modify our approach when circumstances indicate that modifications are necessary. While we believe that the factors we evaluate provide us with a meaningful basis for establishing and applying sound accounting policies, we cannot guarantee that the results will always be accurate. Since the determination of these estimates requires the exercise of judgment, actual results could differ from such estimates.

A description of significant accounting policies that require us to make estimates and assumptions in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements is as follows:

Revenue Recognition. We recognize revenue in accordance with ASC 606, which became effective as of January 1, 2018 (See Notes 2 and 5 in this Form 10-K for impact of adoption and other related disclosures). ASC 606 requires a five-step approach to determine the appropriate method of revenue recognition for each contractual arrangement:

- Step 1: Identify the Contract(s) with a Customer
- Step 2: Identify the Performance Obligation(s) in the Contract
- Step 3: Determine the Transaction Price
- Step 4: Allocate the Transaction Price to the Performance Obligation(s) in the Contract
- Step 5: Recognize Revenue when (or as) the Entity Satisfies a Performance Obligation

We have entered into various license agreements for our owned trademarks. Under ASC 606, our agreements are generally considered symbolic licenses, which contain the characteristics of a right-to-access license since the customer is simultaneously receiving the intellectual property (“IP”) and benefiting from it throughout the license period. We assess each license agreement at inception and determine the performance obligation(s) and appropriate revenue recognition method. As part of this process, we apply judgments based on historical trends when estimating future revenues and the period over which to recognize revenue.

We generally recognize revenue for license agreements under the following methods:

1. *Licenses with guaranteed minimum royalties (“GMRs”)*: Generally, guaranteed minimum royalty payments (fixed revenue) are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the contract, as defined in each license agreement.
2. *Licenses with both GMRs (fixed revenue) and earned royalties (variable revenue)*: Earned royalties in excess of fixed revenue are only recognized when we are reasonably certain that the guaranteed minimum payments for the period, as defined in each license agreement, will be exceeded. Additionally, we have categorized certain contracts as variable when there is a history and future expectation of exceeding GMRs. We recognize income for these contracts during the period corresponding to the licensee’s sales.
3. *Licenses that are sales-based only or earned royalties*: Earned royalties (variable revenue) are recognized as income during the period corresponding to the licensee’s sales.

Payments received as consideration for the grant of a license or advanced royalty payments are recorded as deferred revenue at the time payment is received and recognized into revenue under the methods described above.

Contract assets represent unbilled receivables and are presented within accounts receivable, net on the consolidated balance sheets. Contract liabilities represent unearned revenues and are presented within the current portion of deferred revenue on the consolidated balance sheets.

We disaggregate revenue into two categories: licensing agreements and other, which is comprised of revenue from sources such as sales commissions and vendor placement commissions.

Commission revenues and vendor placement commission revenues are recorded in the period the commission is earned.

Goodwill and Intangible Assets. Goodwill is tested for impairment at the reporting unit level (operating segment or one level below an operating segment) on an annual basis (on October 1st) and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value. The Company considered its market capitalization and the carrying value of its assets and liabilities, including goodwill, when performing its goodwill impairment test. In evaluating goodwill for impairment, we first assessed qualitative factors to determine whether it was more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit was less than its carrying amount. Qualitative factors considered included, for example, macroeconomic and industry conditions, overall financial performance, and other relevant entity-specific events. If we bypassed the qualitative assessment, or concluded that it was more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit was less than its carrying value, we then performed a quantitative goodwill impairment test to identify potential goodwill impairment and measure the amount of goodwill impairment to be recognized, if any. If the carrying value of the reporting unit’s goodwill exceeded the implied fair value of the goodwill, an impairment loss was recognized in the amount of that excess, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. See Note 2 — *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* in Notes to our Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Intangible assets represent trademarks, customer agreements and patents related to our brands. Finite-lived intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Indefinite-lived intangible assets are not amortized, but instead are subject to impairment evaluation. On an annual basis (October 1st) and as needed, we test indefinite lived trademarks for impairment through the use of discounted cash flow models. Assumptions used in our discounted cash flow models include: (i) discount rates; (ii) projected annual revenue growth rates; and (iii) projected long-term growth rates. Our estimates

also factor in economic conditions and expectations of management, which may change in the future based on period-specific facts and circumstances. Other intangibles with determinable lives, including certain trademarks, customer agreements and patents, are evaluated for the possibility of impairment when certain indicators are present, and are otherwise amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets (currently ranging from 2 to 15 years).

When conducting our impairment assessment of indefinite-lived intangible assets, we initially perform a qualitative evaluation of whether it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired. If it is determined by a qualitative evaluation that it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired, we then test the asset for recoverability. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of the asset to its future discounted net cash flows. If the carrying amount of such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell.

Due to the identification of impairment indicators during the quarter ended September 30, 2019, specifically the impairment of certain tradenames due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands, we performed impairment testing of our indefinite-lived assets at September 30, 2019, which replaced our October 1st annual test. As a result of our testing, we recorded a non-cash impairment charge of \$33.1 million consisting of \$28.5 million related to the *Jessica Simpson* trademark and \$4.6 million related to the *Joe's* trademark.

Due to the identification of impairment indicators during the quarter ended September 30, 2018, specifically the impairment of certain tradenames due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands, we performed impairment testing of our indefinite-lived assets at September 30, 2018, which replaced our October 1st annual test. As a result of our testing, we recorded a non-cash impairment charge of \$17.9 million relating to our indefinite-lived intangible assets during the quarter ended September 30, 2018.

Due to the identification of impairment indicators during the quarter ended September 30, 2017, specifically the impairment of certain tradenames due to reduced contractual minimums or reduced sales forecasts in key distribution channels, we performed impairment testing of our goodwill and indefinite-lived assets at September 30, 2017, which replaced our October 1st annual test. As a result of our testing, we recorded a non-cash impairment charge of \$36.5 million relating to our indefinite-lived intangible assets during the quarter ended September 30, 2017.

Due to the identification of impairment indicators during the year ended December 31, 2017, we performed impairment testing of our goodwill and indefinite-lived assets during the fourth quarter of 2017. As a result of our testing, we recorded a non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$304.1 million during the fourth quarter of 2017.

Leases. The Company has operating leases for certain properties for its offices and showrooms and for copiers. The Company adopted ASU No. 2016-02, *Leases* ("ASU 2016-02" or "ASC 842") as of January 1, 2019 using the modified retrospective method as of the period of adoption. The Company elected the package of practical expedients upon transition where the Company did not reassess the lease classification and initial direct costs for leases that existed prior to adoption. Additionally, the Company did not reassess contracts entered into prior to adoption to determine whether the arrangement was or contained a lease. In accordance with ASU 2016-02, for leases over twelve months the Company records a right-of-use asset and a lease liability representing the present value of future lease payments. Rent expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. The Company will test its ROU assets for impairment in accordance with ASC 360. See Note 11 to our consolidated financial statements for further information.

Income Taxes. Current income taxes are based on the respective periods' taxable income for federal, foreign and state income tax reporting purposes. Deferred tax liabilities and assets are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and income tax bases of assets and liabilities, using statutory tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. In accordance with ASU No. 2015-17, *Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes*, all deferred income taxes are reported and classified as non-current. A valuation allowance is required if, based on the weight of available evidence,

it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Management considers the scheduled reversal of deferred income tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, and tax planning strategies in making this assessment. Based on consideration of these items and tax provisions under the Tax Act, primarily the limitation on interest expense deductions, management had determined that enough certainty existed to warrant the release of the valuation allowance recorded against substantially all of the Company's deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2017. See Note 15 to our consolidated financial statements for further information on the release of our valuation allowance.

We apply the FASB guidance on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. The guidance clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with other authoritative GAAP and prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement process for financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The guidance also addresses derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. During the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company did not have any reserves or accrued interest and penalties recorded through current income tax expense in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes* ("ASC 740"). Interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions, if any, are recorded in income tax expense. Tax years that remain open for assessment for federal and state tax purposes include the years ended December 31, 2016 through December 31, 2019.

Stock-Based Compensation. Compensation cost for restricted stock is measured using the quoted market price of the Company's common stock at the date the common stock is granted. For restricted stock and restricted stock units, for which restrictions lapse with the passage of time ("time-based restricted stock"), compensation cost is recognized on a straight-line basis over the period between the issue date and the date that restrictions lapse. Time-based restricted stock is included in total shares of common stock outstanding upon the lapse of applicable restrictions. For restricted stock, for which restrictions are based on performance measures ("performance stock units" or "PSUs"), restrictions lapse when those performance measures have been deemed achieved. Compensation cost for PSUs is recognized on a straight-line basis during the period from the date on which the likelihood of the PSUs being earned is deemed probable and (x) the end of the fiscal year during which such PSUs are expected to vest or (y) the date on which awards of such PSUs may be approved by the compensation committee of the Company's board of directors (the "Compensation Committee") on a discretionary basis, as applicable. PSUs are included in total shares of common stock outstanding upon the lapse of applicable restrictions. PSUs are included in total diluted shares of common stock outstanding when the performance measures have been deemed achieved but the PSUs have not yet been issued.

Fair value for stock options and warrants is calculated using the Black-Scholes valuation model and is expensed on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the grant. Compensation cost is reduced for forfeitures as they occur in accordance with Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2016-09, *Simplifying the Accounting for Share-Based Payments* ("ASU 2016-09").

The Company adopted ASU No. 2018-07, *Improvements to Nonemployee Share-Based Payment Accounting* ("ASU 2018-07") as of January 1, 2019 on a modified retrospective basis. In accordance with ASU 2018-07, the Company recognizes compensation cost for grants to non-employees on a straight-line basis over the period of the grant. Prior periods have not been restated and were accounted for under the previous method where at each reporting period prior to the lapse of restrictions on warrants, time-based restricted stock and PSUs granted to non-employees, the Company remeasured the aggregate compensation cost of such grants using the Company's fair value at the end of such reporting period and revised the straight-line recognition of compensation cost in line with such remeasured amount.

Reportable Segment. An operating segment, in part, is a component of an enterprise whose operating results are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker (the "CODM") to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance. Operating segments may be aggregated only to a limited extent. Our CODM, the Chief Executive Officer, reviews financial information presented on a consolidated basis, accompanied by disaggregated information about revenues for purposes of making operating decisions and assessing financial performance. Accordingly, we have determined that we have a single operating and reportable segment. In addition, we have no foreign operations or any assets in foreign locations. Nearly all of our operations consist of a single revenue stream, which is the licensing of our trademark portfolio, with additional revenues derived from certain commissions.

Results of Operations

Comparison of the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018

The following table summarizes our results of operations for the years indicated and is derived from our consolidated financial statements:

	Year Ended December 31,		Change
	2019	2018	(Dollars)
	(in thousands)		
Net revenue	\$ 101,576	\$127,290	\$ (25,714)
Operating expenses	61,671	60,223	(1,448)
Impairment charges	33,109	17,899	(15,210)
Loss on sale of assets	—	7,117	7,117
Income from continuing operations	6,796	42,051	(35,255)
Other expense	2,107	693	(1,414)
Interest expense, net	53,760	55,264	1,504
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(49,071)	(13,906)	(35,165)
Benefit from income taxes	(8,695)	(1,944)	(6,751)
Loss from continuing operations	(40,376)	(11,962)	(28,414)
Net loss (income) attributable to noncontrolling interests from continuing operations	6,036	(5,506)	11,542
Loss from continuing operations attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(34,340)	(17,468)	(16,872)
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	(125,063)	6,984	(132,047)
Net loss attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	<u><u>\$ (159,403)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (10,484)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (148,919)</u></u>

Net Revenue. Net revenue decreased \$25.7 million to \$101.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2019 compared to \$127.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. The decrease in net revenue for the year ended December 31, 2019 compared to the year ended December 31, 2018 is primarily attributable to revenue earned during the year ended December 31, 2018 for facilitating certain distribution arrangements of \$3.1 million and for *Avia* sales commission revenue of \$2.8 million, as well as the absence of *FUL* and *Revo* revenue due to the sale of the trademarks in 2018. The year-over-year change is also attributable to decreases driven by certain licensee transitions and a licensee termination for the *Jessica Simpson* brand, lower contractual GMRs for the *Gaiam* brand and reduced sales year-over-year for *Ellen Tracy* and *Joe's* brands.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses increased \$1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2019 to \$61.7 million compared to \$60.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. This increase was primarily driven by increased bad debt expense of \$2.6 million primarily driven by the write-off of an outstanding receivable balance from TCI, a related party, as TCI could not adhere to its original payment terms and new extended payment terms have been negotiated, as well as increases in litigation contingencies and claims of approximately \$2.0 million, legal costs of \$1.2 million and commissions of \$1.0 million. These increases were offset by the absence of \$4.2 million fee incurred in 2018 related to a settlement with a licensee as part of a strategic shift to a direct to retail license and the absence of third-party fees related to debt refinancing of \$1.1 million incurred in 2018.

Impairment charges. During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$33.1 million consisting of \$28.5 million related to the *Jessica Simpson* trademark and \$4.6 million related to the *Joe's* trademark. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$17.9 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of two of the Company's brands: *Ellen Tracy* and *Caribbean Joe*. Fair value for each trademark

was determined based on the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows. The impairments arose due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands.

Loss on sale of assets. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded a loss on sale of assets of \$7.1 million related to the sale of the *Revo* trademark on April 19, 2018, recognized during the first quarter of 2018, and the *FUL* trademark on May 30, 2018, recognized during the second quarter of 2018.

Other expense. Other expense was \$2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2019 compared to other expense of \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 primarily due to the loss on our interest rate swaps.

Interest expense, net. Interest expense decreased \$1.5 million compared to the prior year. Interest expense, net during the year ended December 31, 2019 includes interest incurred under our loan agreements of \$48.2 million, non-cash interest related to the amortization of deferred financing costs of \$5.6 million, the expensing of \$0.8 million of deferred financing costs as a result of a partial extinguishment on the Revolving and Term loans in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt* and non-cash interest income of \$0.8 million related to the accretion of the present value of certain payment arrangements. Interest expense, net during the year ended December 31, 2018 includes interest incurred under our loan agreements of \$50.9 million, non-cash interest related to the amortization of deferred financing costs of \$4.5 million, the expensing of \$0.1 million of deferred financing costs as a result of a partial extinguishment of the Amended BoA Credit Agreement in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt* in connection with the Company's entry into the Amended BoA Credit Agreement and non-cash interest income of \$0.3 million related to the accretion of the present value of certain payment arrangements.

Income taxes. The benefit from income taxes in continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2019 differs from the statutory rate primarily for state, local and foreign jurisdiction taxes offset by tax provisions attributable to noncontrolling interest and further decreased by non-deductible compensation. The benefit for income taxes in continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2018 differs from the statutory rate primarily for additional tax benefit attributable to noncontrolling interest offset by non-deductible compensation and an increase in the valuation allowance on state tax attributes.

Noncontrolling interest. Noncontrolling interest for the year ended December 31, 2019 represents net loss allocations of \$6.2 million to With You, Inc., a member of With You LLC (the partnership between us and Jessica Simpson) and \$0.5 million to JALP, LLC, a member of FUL IP Holdings, LLC ("JALP, LLC") and a net income allocation of \$0.7 million to Elan Polo International, Inc., a member of DVS LLC. Noncontrolling interest for the year ended December 31, 2018 represents net income allocations of \$5.6 million to With You, Inc., a member of With You LLC (the partnership between us and Jessica Simpson), \$0.6 million to Elan Polo International, Inc., a member of DVS LLC, and a noncontrolling interest loss allocation of \$0.7 million to JALP, LLC.

Discontinued Operations. The Company completed the sale of MSLO during the year ended December 31, 2019. As a result, we have classified the results of MSLO as discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations for all periods presented. The related assets and liabilities directly associated with MSLO are classified as discontinued operations in our consolidated balance sheets for all periods presented. See Note 4 in this Form 10-K for further discussion.

Comparison of the Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

The following table summarizes our results of operations for the periods indicated and is derived from our consolidated financial statements:

	Year Ended December 31,		Change
	2018	2017	(Dollars)
	(in thousands, except percentages)		
Net revenue	\$127,290	\$ 124,780	\$ 2,510
Operating expenses	60,223	53,752	(6,471)
Impairment charges	17,899	340,628	322,729
Loss on sale of assets	7,117	—	(7,117)
Income (loss) from continuing operations	42,051	(269,600)	311,651
Other expense	693	1,984	1,291
Interest expense, net	55,264	59,000	3,736
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(13,906)	(330,584)	316,678
Benefit from income taxes	(1,944)	(44,423)	42,479
Loss from continuing operations	(11,962)	(286,161)	274,199
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests from continuing operations	(5,506)	(4,172)	(1,334)
Loss from continuing operations attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(17,468)	(290,333)	(272,865)
Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	6,984	104,615	97,631
Net loss attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	<u>\$ (10,484)</u>	<u>\$ (185,718)</u>	<u>\$ (175,234)</u>

Net Revenue. Net revenue increased \$2.5 million to \$127.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 compared to \$124.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. The increase is primarily driven by revenue earned for facilitating certain distribution arrangements of \$3.1 million and for *Avia* sales commission revenue of \$2.8 million, offset by decreases in revenue for *Avia*, *Nevados*, *William Rast*, and *Jessica Simpson*, and the absence of *FUL* and *Revo* revenue due to the sale of the trademarks during the first half of 2018.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses increased \$6.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2018 to \$60.2 million compared to \$53.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2017. This increase was primarily driven by increased advertising costs of \$5.8 million, increased settlement fees due to a \$4.2 million settlement with a licensee as part of a strategic shift to a direct-to-retail license in the third quarter of 2018, increased bad debt expense of \$1.3 million, third-party fees related to debt refinancing of \$1.2 million expensed in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt*, increased consulting fees of \$0.7 million, partially offset by the absence of \$6.7 million severance costs in connection with the Company's former CEO transition.

Impairment charges. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$17.9 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of two of the Company's brands: *Ellen Tracy* and *Caribbean Joe*. Fair value for each trademark was determined based on the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows. The impairments arose due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$304.1 million related to our goodwill and \$36.5 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of five of our non-core brands: *Caribbean Joe*, *Revo*, *Franklin Mint*, *Nevados*, and *FUL*. Fair value for each trademark was determined based on estimates of future discounted cash flows. The trademark impairments arose due to reduced contractual minimums or reduced sales forecasts in key distribution channels for these brands. The goodwill impairment was triggered in the fourth quarter of 2017 by the continued decline of our stock price and the related decline in our market capitalization. During the fourth quarter of 2017, our stock price

and market capitalization declined approximately 41%, consistent with the decline in market capitalization of similar companies in our sector.

Loss on sale of assets. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded a loss on sale of assets of \$7.1 million related to the sale of the *Revo* trademark on April 19, 2018, recognized during the first quarter of 2018, and the *FUL* trademark on May 30, 2018, recognized during the second quarter of 2018.

Other expense. Other expense during the year ended December 31, 2018 consists of immaterial items. Other expense during the year ended December 31, 2017 consisted of a \$1.9 million loss recorded in connection with the sale of equity securities and other immaterial items.

Interest expense, net. Interest expense decreased \$3.7 million compared to the prior year. Interest expense, net during the year ended December 31, 2018 includes interest incurred under our loan agreements of \$50.9 million, non-cash interest related to the amortization of deferred financing costs of \$4.5 million, the expensing of \$0.1 million of deferred financing costs as a result of a partial extinguishment of the Amended BoA Credit Agreement in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt* in connection with the Company's entry into the New Amended BoA Credit Agreement and non-cash interest income of \$0.3 million related to the accretion of the present value of certain payment arrangements. Interest expense, net during the year ended December 31, 2017 includes interest incurred under our loan agreements of \$55.1 million and non-cash interest related to the amortization of deferred financing costs of \$3.9 million.

Income taxes. The benefit for income taxes in continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2018 differs from the statutory rate primarily for additional tax benefit attributable to noncontrolling interest offset by non-deductible compensation and an increase in the valuation allowance on state tax attributes. The benefit from income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2017 primarily represents a tax benefit recognized due to the decrease in deferred tax liabilities as a result of the reduction in the future corporate tax rate from 35% to 21% and the release of the valuation allowance recorded against substantially all of the Company's deferred tax assets prior to December 31, 2017, offset by the non-tax deductible goodwill impairment.

Noncontrolling interest. Noncontrolling interest for the year ended December 31, 2018 represents net income allocations of \$5.6 million to With You, Inc., a member of With You LLC (the partnership between us and Jessica Simpson), \$0.6 million to Elan Polo International, Inc., a member of DVS LLC, and a noncontrolling interest loss allocation of \$0.7 million to JALP, LLC, a member of FUL IP Holdings, LLC ("JALP, LLC"). Noncontrolling interest for the year ended December 31, 2017 represents net income allocations of \$5.8 million to With You, Inc., a member of With You LLC (the partnership between us and Jessica Simpson), \$0.6 million to Elan Polo International, Inc., a member of DVS LLC, and a noncontrolling interest loss allocation of \$2.2 million to JALP, LLC.

Discontinued Operations. The Company completed the sale of MSLO during the year ended December 31, 2019. As a result, we have classified the results of MSLO as discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations for all periods presented. The related assets and liabilities directly associated with MSLO are classified as discontinued operations in our consolidated balance sheets for all periods presented. See Note 4 in this Form 10-K for further discussion.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Liquidity

As of December 31, 2019, we had cash on hand, including restricted cash, of \$8.3 million and a net working capital balance (defined below) of \$11.5 million. Additionally, we had outstanding debt obligations under our loan agreements of \$468.2 million excluding \$22.2 million of deferred financing fees. As of December 31, 2018, we had cash on hand, including restricted cash, of \$16.1 million and a net working capital balance (defined below) of \$19.6 million. Additionally, we had outstanding debt obligations under our loan agreements of \$634.9 million excluding \$24.1 million of deferred financing fees. Net working capital is defined as current assets minus current liabilities, excluding restricted cash and discontinued operations. We currently believe that cash from operations and our currently available cash (including available borrowings

under our existing financing arrangements) will be sufficient to satisfy our anticipated working capital requirements for at least twelve months from the date of filing this Form 10-K. However, because of the coronavirus outbreak, there is significant uncertainty surrounding the potential impact on our results of operations and cash flows. We are proactively taking steps to increase available cash on hand including, but not limited to, targeted reductions in discretionary operating expenses, and utilizing funds available under our Revolving Credit Facility. We currently believe we will continue to satisfy our covenants in our existing financing arrangements for at least twelve months from the date of filing this Form 10-K. The beliefs are based on facts and circumstances existing as of the date of this filing. However, we cannot predict the extent to which the effects of the coronavirus will impair our ability to continue to satisfy the covenants in our existing financing arrangements. See Item 1a. Risk Factors for further information. There are no material capital expenditure commitments as of December 31, 2019.

Cash Flows from Continuing Operations

Cash flows from continuing operations for operating, financing and investing activities for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 are summarized in the following table:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	(in thousands)		
Operating activities	\$ (36,914)	\$ 23,535	\$ (83,105)
Investing activities	166,186	(92)	2,940
Financing activities	(176,806)	(34,023)	(28,294)
Net decrease in cash and restricted cash	<u>\$ (47,534)</u>	<u>\$ (10,580)</u>	<u>\$ (108,459)</u>

Operating Activities

Net cash used in operating activities from continuing operations was \$36.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2019, compared to net cash provided by operating activities from continuing operations of \$23.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. The \$60.4 million decrease was primarily attributable to an increase in net loss of \$28.4 million, a decrease in non-cash items of \$30.3 million driven by deferred income taxes and a decrease in other liabilities of \$15.5 million offset by increases in accounts receivable of \$4.1 million, accounts payable and accrued expenses of \$0.9 million, in prepaid expenses and other assets of \$6.6 million, and in deferred revenue of \$2.2 million on a year-over-year basis.

Investing Activities

Net cash provided by investing activities was \$166.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2019, compared to net cash used in investing activities of \$0.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. This change is driven primarily by the cash proceeds from the sale of MSLO of \$165.9 million. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we sold equity securities for \$5.8 million.

Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2019 amounted to \$176.8 million compared to \$34.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2018. During the year ended December 31, 2019, we made principal repayments of \$21.7 million under our loan agreements in accordance with contractual terms as well as repaid \$154 million of principal in connection with the sale of MSLO, paid lender fees of \$4.6 million related to loan amendments and made \$5.4 million of distributions to certain noncontrolling interest partners. During the year ended December 31, 2018, we made principal payments of \$28.9 million under our loan agreements in accordance with contractual terms and \$6.7 million of distributions to certain noncontrolling interest partners. In addition, we received loan proceeds as part of our debt refinancing of \$107.6 million, made prepayments of \$88.6 million under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement, and paid \$14.6 million of related lender and third-party fees during the year ended December 31, 2018. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we made principal payments of \$28.3 million under our loan agreements in

accordance with contractual terms, \$7.4 million of distributions to certain noncontrolling interest partners and repurchased common stock from employees for tax withholding purposes related to the vesting of restricted stock of \$1.2 million.

Debt

As of December 31, 2019, we were party to the First Amendment to the Third Amended and Restated First Lien Credit Agreement with Bank of America, N.A. as administrative and collateral agent (the “Amended BoA Credit Agreement”) and the First Amendment to the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with Wilmington Trust, National Association as administrative agent and collateral agent (the “Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement”), referred to as our loan agreements. Refer to Note 9 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in this Form 10-K for a discussion of our borrowings and the terms of these debt facilities. As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, our long-term debt, including current portion, was \$468.2 million and \$634.9 million, excluding \$22.2 million and \$24.1 million of deferred financing fees, respectively. As of December 31, 2019, we had \$15.4 million available under the current revolving credit facility (the “Revolving Credit Facility”). We may request an increase in (i) the Revolving Credit Facility and Tranche A Loans as would not cause the consolidated first lien leverage ratio, determined on a pro forma basis after giving effect to any such increase, to exceed 2.80:1.00 and (ii) the Tranche A-1 Loans, as would not cause the consolidated first lien leverage ratio, determined on a pro forma basis after giving effect to any such increase, to exceed (a) with respect to any increase, the proceeds of which will be used solely to finance an acquisition, 3.00:1.00 and (b) with respect to any other increase, 2.90:1.00, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions in the Amended BoA Credit Agreement. We may request one or more additional term loan facilities or the increase of term loan commitments under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement as would not cause the consolidated total leverage ratio, determined on a pro forma basis after giving effect to any such addition and increase, to exceed 6.00:1.00, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions in the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement. We made \$21.7 million of principal repayments under our loan agreements during the year ended December 31, 2019, in addition to the aforementioned \$154.0 million payment.

Contractual Obligations

Our material contractual obligations as of December 31, 2019 are summarized as follows:

Contractual Obligations	Payments Due by Period						Thereafter
	Total	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
				(in thousands)			
Operating leases	\$ 87,618	\$ 6,807	\$ 6,718	\$ 6,721	\$ 6,707	\$ 6,856	\$53,809
Long-term debt obligations:							
Term Loans	453,831	12,750	17,750	20,000	111,631	291,700	—
Revolving Loan	14,358	—	—	—	14,358	—	—
Total	<u>\$555,807</u>	<u>\$19,557</u>	<u>\$24,468</u>	<u>\$26,721</u>	<u>\$132,696</u>	<u>\$298,556</u>	<u>\$53,809</u>

Future Capital Requirements

We believe cash on hand and cash from operations will be sufficient to meet our capital requirements for the twelve months following the filing of this Form 10-K. We intend to continue financing future brand acquisitions through a combination of cash from operations, bank financing and the issuance of additional equity or debt securities. The extent of our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including our results of operations and growth through the acquisition of additional brands, and we cannot be certain that we will be able to obtain additional financing in sufficient amounts or on acceptable terms in the near future, if at all.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

At December 31, 2019 and 2018, we did not have any relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities,

which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes. As a result, we are not exposed to any financing, liquidity, market or credit risk that could arise if we had engaged in such relationships.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements for a full description of recent accounting pronouncements including the respective expected dates of adoption and effects on financial conditions and results of operations.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

We limit exposure to foreign currency fluctuations by requiring payment under the majority of our licenses to be denominated in U.S. dollars. One of our licenses is denominated in Canadian dollars. If there were an adverse change in the exchange rate from Canadian to U.S. dollars of 10%, the expected effect on net income would be immaterial.

Our earnings may also be affected by changes in LIBOR interest rates as a result of our loan agreements. As further discussed in Note 9 to our consolidated financial statements, we have entered into interest rate swaps and interest rate caps to mitigate the effects of a change in LIBOR interest rates. An increase in LIBOR interest rates of one percent affecting the loan agreements would not have had a material effect on our results of operations during the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The financial statements and supplementary data required to be submitted in response to this Item 8 are set forth after Part IV, Item 15 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and are incorporated by reference into this Item 8.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Exchange Act) as of December 31, 2019, the end of the period covered by this report. Based on, and as of the date of such evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and the Interim Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2019 such that the information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted to the SEC under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act). Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of our Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of our financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP. Internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of our assets; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to

permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of the end of the period covered by this report. In making this assessment, our management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework*, as issued in 2013. Based on this assessment, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2019, based on those criteria.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with policies or procedures may deteriorate. The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2019 has been audited by CohnReznick LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report provided below.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended December 31, 2019 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders
Sequential Brands Group, Inc.

Opinion on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

We have audited Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries' (the Company's) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2019, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2019, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by COSO.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive (loss) income, changes in equity and cash flows and the financial statement schedule listed in the index appearing under Item 15(a) of the Company and our report dated March 31, 2020, expressed an unqualified opinion.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

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

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

/s/ CohnReznick LLP
New York, New York
March 31, 2020

Item 9B. Other Information

On March 30, 2020, the Company amended its Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the “New FS/KKR Credit Agreement”) with Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Pursuant to the New FS/KKR Credit Agreement, no mandatory amortization payments are required until September 30, 2020. Thereafter, the loans under the New FS/KKR Credit Agreement will be subject to quarterly amortization payments of approximately \$2.1 million. The New FS/KKR Credit Agreement modifies the calculation of Consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the agreement) by permitting additional addbacks. The New FS/KKR Credit Agreement allows for the netting of up to \$5 million in cash of the Company and its subsidiaries for purposes of calculating the leverage ratio covenants, except for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 which allows for netting of up to \$10 million in cash. If the Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio is not equal to or less than 5:50:1:00 (on a pro forma basis) on July 31, 2020, Sequential shall amend its organization documents to add one new independent director acceptable to the lenders under the New FS/KKR Credit Agreement to sit on its Board of Directors.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information required by this item will be contained under the captions “Directors and Executive Officers” and “Corporate Governance” in the definitive proxy statement for the annual meeting of stockholders to be held on June 5, 2020 (the “Proxy Statement”) to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after December 31, 2019, which information is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

Code of Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Ethics applicable to all members of our Board and to all of our employees and executive officers, including our Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer. The Code of Ethics constitutes a “code of ethics” as defined by applicable SEC rules and a “code of conduct” as defined by applicable Nasdaq rules. Our code of ethics is posted on our website located at www.sequentialbrandsgroup.com in the section titled “Investor Relations — Corporate Governance.” You may also request a copy of the Code of Ethics by writing or calling us at:

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC.

Attn: Investor Relations
601 West 26th Street, Suite 915
New York, New York 10001
Tel.: (646) 564-2577

Any amendment or waiver of the Code of Ethics pertaining to a member of our Board or one of our executive officers will be disclosed on our website within four business days.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this item will be contained under the caption “Executive Compensation” in the Proxy Statement, which information is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information required by this item will be contained under the caption “Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management” in the Proxy Statement, which information is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

The information required by this item will be contained under the captions “Certain Relationships and Related Transactions” and “Corporate Governance” in the Proxy Statement, which information is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services

The information required by this item will be contained under the caption “Principal Accounting Fees and Services” in the Proxy Statement, which information is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules

(a) Documents filed as part of this report

1. *Financial Statements.*

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements, which appears on page F-1 hereof. The financial statements listed in the accompanying Index to Consolidated Financial Statements are filed herewith in response to this Item.

2. *Financial Statement Schedules.*

Schedule II — Valuation and Qualifying Accounts is required to be filed by Item 8 of the Annual Report on Form 10-K.

All other schedules are omitted because the information is inapplicable or presented in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

3. *Exhibits.* See Item 15(b) below.

(b) Exhibits. See Exhibit Index, which is incorporated herein by reference.

(c) Financial Statement Schedule. See Item 15(a) above.

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed as an 8-K12B, on December 4, 2015.
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Sequential Brands Group, Inc., effective as of December 4, 2015. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed as an 8-K12B, filed on December 4, 2015.
4.1+	Description of Common Stock.
10.1	Preemptive Rights and Board Nominee Agreement by and between Sequential Brands Group, Inc. (as successor to SQBG) and Tennman WR-T, Inc. effective as of October 1, 2011. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of SQBG, Inc. (previously known as Sequential Brands Group, Inc.) (SEC File No. 001-36082) (“SQBG”) filed on November 21, 2011.
10.2	Sequential Brands Group, Inc. 2013 Stock Incentive Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to our Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-208343) filed on December 4, 2015.†
10.3	2005 Stock Incentive Plan of People’s Liberation. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to our Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-208343) filed on December 4, 2015†
10.4	Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of August 15, 2014, by and between SQBG and Carlyle Equity Opportunity GP, L.P., as the representative of the former stockholders and optionholders of Galaxy Brand Holdings, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to SQBG’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on August 18, 2014.
10.5	Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of June 22, 2015, by and among Sequential Brands Group, Inc., Martha Stewart, Martha Stewart Family Limited Partnership, Alexis Stewart, the Martha Stewart 1999 Family Trust, the Martha Stewart 2000 Family Trust and the Martha and Alexis Stewart Charitable Foundation. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to our Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-205940) filed on July 30, 2015.
10.6	Form of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. 2013 Stock Incentive Compensation Plan Nonqualified Stock Option Award Agreement and form of related Notice. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.36 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 14, 2016.†
10.7	Form of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. 2013 Stock Incentive Compensation Plan Restricted Stock Award Agreement and form of related Notice. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.37 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 14, 2016. †
10.8	Form of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. 2013 Stock Incentive Compensation Plan Performance Stock Unit Award Agreement. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.38 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 14, 2016.†
10.9	Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of July 1, 2016, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 7, 2016.

Exhibit Number	Description
10.10	First Amendment, dated August 7, 2018, to the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of July 1, 2016, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 8, 2018.
10.11	Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of July 1, 2016, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 7, 2016.
10.12	First Amendment, dated August 7, 2018, to the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of July 1, 2016, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 8, 2018.
10.13	Amendment No. 1, dated as of July 1, 2016, to the Intercreditor Agreement, dated as of December 4, 2015, between Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and collateral agent and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and acknowledged by Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and the guarantors party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 7, 2016.
10.14	Equity Purchase Agreement by and between Sequential Brands Group, Inc. as the Seller, and Marquee Brands LLC, as the Buyer dated as of April 16, 2019. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Sequential Brand Group, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2019.
10.15	Transition agreement between the Company and Ms. Murray, dated October 1, 2019. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Sequential Brand Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 7, 2019.
10.16	Second Amendment to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of June 10, 2019, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Sequential Brand Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 14, 2019.
10.17	Third Amendment to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of August 12, 2019, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Sequential Brand Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 14, 2019.
10.18	Second Amendment to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of June 10, 2019, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Sequential Brand Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 2, 2020.

Exhibit Number	Description
10.19	Third Amendment to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of December 30, 2019, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Sequential Brand Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 2, 2020.
10.20	Employment Agreement between Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and David Conn, dated January 6, 2020. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Sequential Brand Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 9, 2020.
10.21+	Fourth Amendment to Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of March 30, 2020, between Sequential Brands Group, Inc., certain subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. named therein, Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto.
21.1+	Subsidiaries of Sequential Brands Group, Inc.
23.1+	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
31.1+	Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) as adopted pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2+	Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) as adopted pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1+	Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS+	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH+	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL+	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF+	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB+	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE+	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

* Pursuant to Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K, the schedules to this agreement have been omitted. The Registrant undertakes to supplementally furnish a copy of the omitted schedules to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.

† Each a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

+ Filed herewith.

Item 16. Form 10-K Summary

None.

SIGNATURES

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

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC.

Date: March 31, 2020

By: /s/ David Conn

David Conn

Title: Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

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

Name	Title	Date
/s/ David Conn David Conn	Chief Executive Officer, Director (Principal Executive Officer)	March 31, 2020
/s/ Daniel Hanbridge Daniel Hanbridge	Senior Vice President and Interim Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	March 31, 2020
/s/ William Sweedler William Sweedler	Chairman of the Board of Directors	March 31, 2020
/s/ Rodney Cohen Rodney Cohen	Director	March 31, 2020
/s/ Al Gossett Al Gossett	Director	March 31, 2020
/s/ Aaron Hollander Aaron Hollander	Director	March 31, 2020
/s/ Gary Johnson Gary Johnson	Director	March 31, 2020
/s/ Stewart Leonard, Jr. Stewart Leonard, Jr.	Director	March 31, 2020
/s/ Martha Stewart Martha Stewart	Director	March 31, 2020

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Audited Financial Statements:	
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-2
Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2019 and 2018	F-3
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Years Ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 . . .	F-4
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss for the Years Ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity for the Years Ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017	F-6
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Years Ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 . .	F-7
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-9

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders
Sequential Brands Group, Inc.

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive loss, changes in equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes and the financial statement schedule listed in the index appearing under Item 15(a) (collectively referred to as the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2019, and 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2019, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2019, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated March 31, 2020, expressed an unqualified opinion.

Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Notes 2 and 11 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company has changed its method of accounting for leases as of January 1, 2019 due to the adoption of Accounting Standards Codification Topic 842, *Leases*.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ CohnReznick LLP

We have served as the Company’s auditor since 2013.

New York, New York
March 31, 2020

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	December 31,	
	2019	2018
<u>Assets</u>		
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 6,264	\$ 14,106
Restricted cash	2,043	2,032
Accounts receivable, net	39,452	49,600
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	4,228	3,981
Current assets from discontinued operations	6,839	23,845
Total current assets	58,826	93,564
Property and equipment, net	5,349	8,391
Intangible assets, net	599,967	634,827
Right-of-use assets – operating leases	50,320	—
Other assets	8,782	11,222
Long-term assets from discontinued operations	—	330,664
Total assets	<u>\$ 723,244</u>	<u>\$1,078,668</u>
<u>Liabilities and Equity</u>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 15,721	\$ 11,600
Current portion of long-term debt	12,750	28,300
Current portion of deferred revenue	6,977	8,172
Current portion of lease liabilities – operating leases	3,035	—
Current liabilities from discontinued operations	1,959	15,450
Total current liabilities	40,442	63,522
Long-term debt, net of current portion	433,250	582,487
Long-term deferred revenue, net of current portion	4,604	8,224
Deferred income taxes	14,351	67,002
Lease liabilities – operating leases, net of current portion	54,168	—
Other long-term liabilities	3,389	9,160
Long-term liabilities from discontinued operations	—	3,629
Total liabilities	550,204	734,024
Commitments and contingencies		
Equity:		
Preferred stock Series A, \$0.01 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding at December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018	—	—
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 150,000,000 shares authorized; 66,877,494 and 65,990,179 shares issued at December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively, and 65,780,738 and 64,327,582 shares outstanding at December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively	672	657
Additional paid-in capital	514,496	513,764
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(4,096)	(1,554)
Accumulated deficit	(394,126)	(234,723)
Treasury stock, at cost; 1,096,756 and 1,662,597 shares at December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018, respectively	(3,230)	(4,226)
Total Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries stockholders' equity	113,716	273,918
Noncontrolling interests	59,324	70,726
Total equity	173,040	344,644
Total liabilities and equity	<u>\$ 723,244</u>	<u>\$1,078,668</u>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Net revenue	\$ 101,576	\$ 127,290	\$ 124,780
Operating expenses	61,671	60,223	53,752
Impairment charges	33,109	17,899	340,628
Loss on sale of assets	—	7,117	—
Income (loss) from operations	6,796	42,051	(269,600)
Other expense	2,107	693	1,984
Interest expense, net	53,760	55,264	59,000
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(49,071)	(13,906)	(330,584)
Benefit from income taxes	(8,695)	(1,944)	(44,423)
Loss from continuing operations	(40,376)	(11,962)	(286,161)
Net loss (income) attributable to noncontrolling interests from continuing operations	6,036	(5,506)	(4,172)
Loss from continuing operations attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(34,340)	(17,468)	(290,333)
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	(125,063)	6,984	104,615
Net loss attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	<u>\$ (159,403)</u>	<u>\$ (10,484)</u>	<u>\$ (185,718)</u>
Continuing Operations:			
Loss per share – basic and diluted	\$ (0.53)	\$ (0.27)	\$ (4.62)
Discontinued Operations:			
(Loss) earnings per share – basic	\$ (1.93)	\$ 0.11	\$ 1.66
(Loss) earnings per share – diluted	(1.93)	0.11	1.66
Loss per share attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries:			
Basic and diluted	\$ (2.46)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (2.95)
Weighted-average common shares outstanding:			
Basic	<u>64,760,823</u>	<u>63,700,081</u>	<u>62,861,743</u>
Diluted	<u>64,760,823</u>	<u>64,992,059</u>	<u>63,093,437</u>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS
(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Net loss from continuing operations	\$ (40,376)	\$(11,962)	\$(286,161)
Other comprehensive (loss) income:			
Unrealized (loss) gain on interest rate caps	—	(80)	224
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps	(5,628)	(1,554)	—
Other comprehensive (loss) income	(5,628)	(1,634)	224
Comprehensive loss	(46,004)	(13,596)	(285,937)
Comprehensive loss (income) from continuing operations attributable to noncontrolling interests	6,036	(5,506)	(4,172)
Comprehensive loss from continuing operations attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(39,968)	(19,102)	(290,109)
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	(125,063)	6,984	104,615
Comprehensive loss attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	<u>\$(165,031)</u>	<u>\$(12,118)</u>	<u>\$(185,494)</u>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017
(in thousands, except share data)

	Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital		Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)		Treasury Stock		Subsidiaries' Equity		Noncontrolling Interests		Total Equity	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Income (Loss)	Deficit	Shares	Amount	Equity	Equity	Interests	Interests	Equity	Equity
Balance at January 1, 2017	—	\$ —	62,602,041	\$624	\$502,564	\$ (144)	\$ (39,651)	(97,686)	\$ (638)	\$ 462,755	\$74,813	\$ 537,568	—	—	5,911	5,911
Stock-based compensation	—	—	1,050,680	11	5,900	—	—	—	—	—	(20)	(20)	—	—	224	224
Stock registration costs	—	—	—	—	(20)	—	—	—	—	—	(1,161)	(1,161)	—	—	(7,438)	(7,438)
Unrealized gain on interest rate caps, net of tax	—	—	—	—	—	224	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repurchase of common stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(327,308)	(1,161)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Noncontrolling interest distributions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(185,718)	—	—	—	(185,718)	4,172	—	4,172	4,172
Balance at December 31, 2017	—	—	63,652,721	\$635	\$508,444	\$ 80	\$ (225,369)	(424,994)	\$ (1,799)	\$ 281,991	\$71,547	\$ 353,538	—	—	(185,718)	(185,718)
Cumulative effect of revenue recognition accounting change	—	—	—	—	1,130	—	—	—	1,130	355	1,485	1,485	—	—	—	—
Stock-based compensation	—	—	1,493,972	14	3,828	—	—	—	—	—	3,842	3,842	—	—	—	3,842
Shares issued under stock incentive plan	—	—	843,486	8	1,492	—	—	—	—	—	1,500	1,500	—	—	—	1,500
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps, net of tax	—	—	—	—	—	(1,554)	—	—	—	—	(1,554)	(1,554)	—	—	—	(1,554)
Unrealized loss on interest rate caps, net of tax	—	—	—	—	—	(80)	—	—	—	—	(80)	(80)	—	—	—	(80)
Repurchase of common stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1,237,603)	(2,427)	(2,427)	(2,427)	—	—	(2,427)	(2,427)
Noncontrolling interest distributions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(6,682)	—	(6,682)	(6,682)
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,506	—	5,506	5,506
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(10,484)	—	—	(10,484)	(10,484)	—	—	(10,484)	(10,484)
Balance at December 31, 2018	—	—	65,990,179	\$657	\$513,764	\$ (1,554)	\$ (234,723)	(1,662,597)	\$ (4,226)	\$ 273,918	\$70,726	\$ 344,644	—	—	\$ 344,644	\$ 344,644
Stock-based compensation	—	—	887,315	15	2,000	—	—	—	—	—	2,015	2,015	—	—	2,015	2,015
Shares issued from treasury stock	—	—	—	—	(1,268)	—	—	—	864,576	1,268	(2,542)	(2,542)	—	—	—	—
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps, net of tax	—	—	—	—	—	(2,542)	—	—	(298,735)	(272)	(272)	(272)	—	—	(2,542)	(2,542)
Repurchase of common stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Noncontrolling interest distributions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(5,366)	—	(5,366)	(5,366)
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(6,036)	—	(6,036)	(6,036)
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(159,403)	—	—	(159,403)	(159,403)	—	—	(159,403)	(159,403)
Balance at December 31, 2019	—	\$ —	66,877,494	\$672	\$514,496	\$ (4,096)	\$ (394,126)	(1,096,756)	\$ (3,230)	\$ 113,716	\$59,324	\$ 173,040	—	—	\$ 173,040	\$ 173,040

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
		(Note 2)	
Cash flows from operating activities			
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (40,376)	\$(11,962)	\$(286,161)
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of tax	(125,063)	6,984	104,615
Adjustments to reconcile loss from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Provision for bad debts	4,123	1,546	484
Depreciation and amortization	4,923	2,738	2,236
Stock-based compensation	1,871	2,911	5,911
Loss on debt extinguishment	—	148	—
Amortization of deferred financing costs	6,381	4,481	3,862
Impairment charges	33,109	17,899	340,628
Loss on equity securities	123	—	—
Loss (income) from equity method investment	78	(61)	(22)
Loss on interest rate swaps	1,029	—	—
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	70	131	—
Realized loss on equity securities	—	—	1,916
Amortization of operating leases	6,261	—	—
Loss on sale of assets	—	7,117	—
Deferred income taxes	(52,651)	(1,260)	(132,669)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	6,025	1,884	(12,800)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,534	(5,041)	(3,541)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	3,092	2,135	(1,256)
Deferred revenue	(4,815)	(6,967)	(2,676)
Other liabilities	(7,691)	7,836	983
Cash (used in) provided by operating activities from continuing operations	(36,914)	23,535	(83,105)
Cash provided by operating activities from discontinued operations	40,321	9,365	111,315
Cash provided by operating activities	3,407	32,900	28,210
Cash flows from investing activities			
Investments in intangible assets, including registration and renewal costs	(136)	(239)	(298)
Purchases of property and equipment	(64)	(4,209)	(3,019)
Proceeds from sale of trademarks	—	4,356	500
Proceeds from sale of equity securities	458	—	5,757
Proceeds from sale of discontinued operations	165,928	—	—
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities from continuing operations	166,186	(92)	2,940
Cash used in investing activities from discontinued operations	(44)	(80)	(77)
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities	166,142	(172)	2,863

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (continued)
(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
		(Note 2)	
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from long-term debt	9,000	107,607	10,000
Stock registration costs	—	—	(20)
Payment of long-term debt	(175,661)	(117,456)	(28,300)
Guaranteed payments in connection with acquisitions	—	(475)	(1,375)
Deferred financing costs	(4,507)	(14,590)	—
Repurchases of common stock	(272)	(2,427)	(1,161)
Noncontrolling interest distributions	(5,366)	(6,682)	(7,438)
Cash used in financing activities from continuing operations	(176,806)	(34,023)	(28,294)
Cash used in financing activities from discontinued operations	(574)	(3,000)	(3,000)
Cash used in financing activities	(177,380)	(37,023)	(31,294)
Net decrease in cash and restricted cash	(7,831)	(4,295)	(221)
Balance – Beginning of year	16,138	20,433	20,654
Balance – End of year	<u>\$ 8,307</u>	<u>\$ 16,138</u>	<u>\$ 20,433</u>
Reconciliation to amounts on consolidated balance sheets			
Cash	\$ 6,264	\$ 14,106	\$ 18,902
Restricted cash	2,043	2,032	1,531
Total cash and restricted cash	<u>\$ 8,307</u>	<u>\$ 16,138</u>	<u>\$ 20,433</u>
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information			
Cash paid for:			
Interest	\$ 52,747	\$ 58,681	\$ 55,755
Taxes	\$ 1,102	\$ 90	\$ 163
Non-cash investing and financing activities			
Accrued purchases of property and equipment at year end	\$ —	\$ 18	\$ 152
Unrealized gain on equity securities during the year	\$ —	\$ 1,554	\$ —
Unrealized (loss) gain on interest rate cap, net during the year	\$ —	\$ (80)	\$ 224
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps, net during the year	\$ (2,542)	\$ —	\$ —

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 1 — ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Overview

Sequential Brands Group, Inc. (the “Company”) owns a portfolio of consumer brands in the active and lifestyle categories. The Company aims to maximize the strategic value of its brands by promoting, marketing and licensing its global brands through various distribution channels, including to retailers, wholesalers and distributors in the United States and in certain international territories. The Company’s core strategy is to enhance and monetize the global reach of its existing brands, and to pursue additional strategic acquisitions to grow the scope of and diversify its portfolio of brands. The Company licenses brands to both wholesale and direct-to-retail licensees. In a wholesale license, a wholesale supplier is granted rights (typically on an exclusive basis) to a single or small group of related product categories for a particular brand for sale to multiple accounts within an approved channel of distribution and territory. In a direct-to-retail license, a single retailer is granted the right (typically on an exclusive basis) to sell branded products in a broad range of product categories through its brick and mortar stores and e-commerce sites. As of December 31, 2019, the Company had approximately one hundred licensees, with wholesale licensees comprising a significant majority.

NOTE 2 — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reclassification of Prior Year Presentation

On June 10, 2019, the Company completed the sale of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, Inc. (“MSLO”), a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, for \$166 million in cash consideration, plus additional amounts in respect of pre-closing accounts receivable that are received after the closing, subject to certain adjustments, pursuant to an equity purchase agreement (the “Purchase Agreement”) with Marquee Brands LLC (the “Buyer”) entered into on April 16, 2019. In addition, the Purchase Agreement provides for an earnout of up to \$40,000,000 payable to the Company if certain performance targets are achieved during the three calendar years ending December 31, 2020, December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022. MSLO and its subsidiaries were engaged in the business of promoting, marketing and licensing the *Martha Stewart* and the *Emeril Lagasse* brands through various distribution channels.

Due to the sale of MSLO during the second quarter of 2019 (see Note 4), in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 205, *Discontinued Operations*, we have classified the results of MSLO as discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations and cash flows for all periods presented. Additionally, the related assets and liabilities directly associated with MSLO are classified as held for disposition from discontinued operations in our consolidated balance sheets for all periods presented. All amounts included in the notes to the consolidated financial statements relate to continuing operations unless otherwise noted.

Principles of Consolidation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned and majority-owned subsidiaries. All significant inter-company accounts and transactions have been eliminated in the consolidation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“GAAP”) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods.

Making estimates requires management to exercise significant judgment. It is at least reasonably possible that the estimate of the effect of a condition, situation or set of circumstances that existed at the date of the consolidated financial statements, which management considered in formulating its estimate, could change in the near term due to one or more future confirming events. Accordingly, actual results could differ significantly from estimates.

Discontinued Operations

The Company accounted for the sale of MSLO in accordance with ASC 360, *Accounting for Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets* (“ASC 360”) and Accounting Standard Update (“ASU”) No. 2014-08, *Reporting of Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity* (“ASU 2014-08”). The Company followed the held-for-sale criteria as defined in ASC 360. ASC 360 requires that a component of an entity that has been disposed of or is classified as held for sale and has operations and cash flows that can be clearly distinguished from the rest of the entity be reported as assets held for sale and discontinued operations. In the period a component of an entity has been disposed of or classified as held for sale, the results of operations for the periods presented are reclassified into separate line items in the statements of operations. Assets and liabilities are also reclassified into separate line items on the related balance sheets for the periods presented. The statements of cash flows for the periods presented are also reclassified to reflect the results of discontinued operations as separate line items. ASU 2014-08 requires that only a disposal of a component of an entity, or a group of components of an entity, that represents a strategic shift that has, or will have, a major effect on the reporting entity’s operations and financial results be reported in the financial statements as discontinued operations. ASU 2014-08 also provides guidance on the financial statement presentations and disclosures of discontinued operations.

Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue in accordance with ASC 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (“ASC 606”), which became effective for the Company as of January 1, 2018 (see Note 5 for impact of adoption and other related disclosures). ASC 606 requires a five-step approach to determine the appropriate method of revenue recognition for each contractual arrangement:

Step 1: Identify the Contract(s) with a Customer

Step 2: Identify the Performance Obligation(s) in the Contract

Step 3: Determine the Transaction Price

Step 4: Allocate the Transaction Price to the Performance Obligation(s) in the Contract

Step 5: Recognize Revenue when (or as) the Entity Satisfies a Performance Obligation

The Company has entered into various license agreements for its owned trademarks. Under ASC 606, the Company’s agreements are generally considered symbolic licenses, which contain the characteristics of a right-to-access license since the customer is simultaneously receiving the intellectual property (“IP”) and benefiting from it throughout the license period. The Company assesses each license agreement at inception and determines the performance obligation(s) and appropriate revenue recognition method. As part of this process, the Company applies judgments based on historical trends when estimating future revenues and the period over which to recognize revenue.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

The Company generally recognizes revenue for license agreements under the following methods:

1. *Licenses with guaranteed minimum royalties (“GMRs”)*: Generally, guaranteed minimum royalty payments (fixed revenue) comprising the transaction price are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the contract, as defined in each license agreement.
2. *Licenses with both GMRs (fixed revenue) and earned royalties (variable revenue)*: Earned royalties in excess of fixed revenue are only recognized when the Company is reasonably certain that the guaranteed minimum payments for the period, as defined in each license agreement, will be exceeded. Additionally, the Company has categorized certain contracts as variable when there is a history and future expectation of exceeding GMRs. The Company recognizes income for these contracts during the period corresponding to the licensee’s sales.
3. *Licenses that are sales-based only or earned royalties*: Earned royalties (variable revenue) are recognized as income during the period corresponding to the licensee’s sales.

Payments received as consideration for the grant of a license or advanced royalty payments are recorded as deferred revenue at the time payment is received and recognized into revenue under the methods described above.

Contract assets represent unbilled receivables and are presented within accounts receivable, net on the consolidated balance sheets. Contract liabilities represent unearned revenues and are presented within the current portion of deferred revenue on the consolidated balance sheets.

The Company disaggregates its revenue into two categories: licensing agreements and other, which is comprised of revenue from sources such as sales commissions and vendor placement commissions.

Commission revenues and vendor placement commission revenues are recorded in the period the commission is earned.

Restricted Cash

Restricted cash at December 31, 2019 consists of cash deposited with a financial institution required as collateral for the Company’s cash-collateralized letter of credit facilities.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are recorded net of allowances for doubtful accounts, based on the Company’s ongoing discussions with its licensees and other customers and its evaluation of their creditworthiness, payment history and account aging. Accounts receivable balances deemed to be uncollectible are charged to the allowance for doubtful accounts after all means of collection have been exhausted and the potential for recovery is considered remote. The allowance for doubtful accounts was \$5.8 million and \$1.8 million at December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

On June 10, 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO. As a result, accounts receivable, net, decreased \$16.6 million which was recorded within current assets from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2018.

The Company’s accounts receivable, net amounted to \$39.5 million and \$49.6 million as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Two licensees accounted for approximately 51% (33% and 18%) of the Company’s total consolidated accounts receivable, net balance as of December 31, 2019 and two licensees accounted for approximately 41% (25% and 16%) of the Company’s total consolidated accounts receivable, net balance as of December 31, 2018. The Company does not believe the accounts receivable balances from these licensees represents a significant collection risk based on past collection experience.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Investments

The Company accounts for equity securities under ASC 321, *Investments — Equity Securities* (“ASC 321”). Such securities are reported at fair value in the consolidated balance sheets and, at the time of purchase, are reported in the consolidated statements of cash flows as an investing activity. Gains and losses on equity securities are recognized through net loss. The Company recognized a loss on its equity securities for \$0.1 million and \$0.9 million recorded in other expense on the consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Prior to adoption of ASC 321 in 2018, the Company accounted for its equity securities under ASC 320, *Investments — Debt and Equity Securities*. During the second quarter of 2017, the Company sold equity securities for \$5.8 million. The book cost basis of the equity securities was approximately \$7.7 million, which was determined using the specific identification method. The sale resulted in a net realized loss of \$1.9 million, which is recorded in other expense in the consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2017. The Company did not hold these equity securities as of December 31, 2017.

Equity Method Investment

For investments in entities over which the Company exercises significant influence but which do not meet the requirements for consolidation, the Company uses the equity method of accounting. On July 1, 2016, the Company acquired a 49.9% noncontrolling interest in Gaiam Pty. Ltd. in connection with its acquisition of Gaiam Brand Holdco, LLC. The value of the Company’s equity method investment was \$0.6 million and \$0.7 million as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, and is included in other assets in the consolidated balance sheets. The Company’s share of earnings from its equity method investee, which was not material for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, is included in other expense in the consolidated statements of operations.

The Company evaluates its equity method investment for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amounts of such investment may not be recoverable. The difference between the carrying value of the equity method investment and its estimated fair value is recognized as an impairment charge when the loss in value is deemed other-than-temporary.

Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill represents the excess of purchase price over the fair value of net assets acquired in business combinations accounted for under the purchase method of accounting. The Company does not have any goodwill reported on its consolidated balance sheets at December 31, 2019 or 2018.

On an annual basis and as needed, the Company tests goodwill and indefinite lived trademarks for impairment through the use of discounted cash flow models. Assumptions used in our discounted cash flow models are as follows: (i) discount rates; (ii) projected annual revenue growth rates; and (iii) projected long-term growth rates. Our estimates also factor in economic conditions and expectations of management, which may change in the future based on period-specific facts and circumstances. Other intangibles with determinable lives, including certain trademarks, customer agreements, patents and a favorable lease, are evaluated for the possibility of impairment when certain indicators are present, and are otherwise amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets (currently ranging from 2 to 15 years).

On June 10, 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO. As a result, indefinite-lived intangible assets decreased by \$330.1 million which was recorded within assets from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2018. During the first quarter of 2019, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$161.2 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* trademarks. The impairments arose as a result of the sale process for the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* brands (as discussed in Note 4) due to the difference in the fair value as indicated by the sales price as compared to the carrying values of the intangible assets included in the transaction. The sale of the *Martha*

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Stewart and *Emeril Lagasse* brands was approved by the Board of Directors on April 15, 2019, to allow the Company to achieve one of its top priorities in significantly reducing its debt. Going forward the Company's strategy is to focus on higher margin brands that are well suited for growing health, wellness and beauty categories. These charges are included in discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$33.1 million consisting of \$28.5 million related to the *Jessica Simpson* trademark and \$4.6 million related to the *Joe's* trademark. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$17.9 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of two of the Company's non-core brands: *Ellen Tracy* and *Caribbean Joe*. The impairments arose due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands. Fair value for each trademark was determined based on the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows.

Due to the identification of impairment indicators during the quarter ended September 30, 2017, the Company performed impairment testing of its goodwill and indefinite-lived assets at September 30, 2017, which replaced its October 1st annual test. As a result of its testing, the Company recorded a non-cash impairment charge of \$36.5 million relating to its indefinite-lived intangible assets during the quarter ended September 30, 2017.

Due to the identification of impairment indicators during the quarter ended December 31, 2017, the Company performed impairment testing of its goodwill and indefinite-lived assets at December 31, 2017. As a result of its testing, the Company recorded a non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$304.1 million during the quarter ended December 31, 2017. See Notes 3, 7 and 8 for further details.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred. Upon retirement or other disposition of property and equipment, applicable cost and accumulated depreciation and amortization are removed from the accounts and any gains or losses are included in results of operations.

Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment is computed using the straight-line method based on estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Furniture and fixtures	5 years
Computer hardware/equipment	5 to 7 years
Leasehold improvements	Term of the lease or the estimated life of the related improvements, whichever is shorter.
Computer software	5 years
Automobiles and trucks	5 years
Websites	3 years

Deferred Financing Costs

Deferred financing costs represent lender fees, legal and other third-party costs incurred in connection with issuing debt securities or obtaining debt or other credit arrangements. Deferred financing costs are recorded as a deduction of the carrying value of debt and are amortized as interest expense, using the effective interest method, over the term of the related debt. Debt discounts are amortized to interest expense over the term of the related debt.

Treasury Stock

Treasury stock is recorded at cost as a reduction of equity in the consolidated balance sheets.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Preferred Stock

Preferred stock subject to mandatory redemption (if any) is classified as a liability instrument and is measured at fair value. The Company classifies conditionally redeemable preferred stock (if any), which includes preferred stock that features redemption rights that are either within the control of the holder or subject to redemption upon the occurrence of uncertain events not solely within the Company's control, as temporary equity. At all other times, the Company classifies preferred stock as a component of equity.

The Company's preferred stock does not feature any redemption rights within the holders' control or conditional redemption features not solely within its control as of December 31, 2019 and 2018. Accordingly, all issuances of preferred stock are presented as a component of equity. The Company did not have any preferred stock outstanding as of December 31, 2019 and 2018.

Common Stock Purchase Warrants and Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company classifies as equity any contracts that (i) require physical settlement or net-share settlement or (ii) give the Company a choice of net-cash settlement or settlement in its own shares (physical settlement or net-share settlement). The Company classifies as assets or liabilities any contracts that (i) require net-cash settlement (including a requirement to net cash settle the contract if an event occurs and if that event is outside the Company's control) or (ii) gives the counterparty a choice of net-cash settlement or settlement in shares (physical settlement or net-share settlement). The Company assesses classification of its common stock purchase warrants and other freestanding derivatives, if any, at each reporting date to determine whether a change in classification between assets and liabilities is required. The Company determined that its outstanding common stock purchase warrants satisfied the criteria for classification as equity instruments at December 31, 2019 and 2018.

Advertising

Advertising costs related to media ads are charged to expense as of the first date the advertisements take place. Advertising costs related to campaign ads, such as production and talent, are expensed over the term of the related advertising campaign. Advertising expenses included in operating expenses from continuing operations approximated \$12.0 million, \$11.1 million and \$5.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company had no capitalized advertising costs recorded on the consolidated balance sheets.

Stock-Based Compensation

Compensation cost for restricted stock is measured using the quoted market price of the Company's common stock at the date the common stock is granted. For restricted stock and restricted stock units, for which restrictions lapse with the passage of time ("time-based restricted stock"), compensation cost is recognized on a straight-line basis over the period between the issue date and the date that restrictions lapse. Time-based restricted stock is included in total shares of common stock outstanding upon the lapse of applicable restrictions. For restricted stock, for which restrictions are based on performance measures ("performance stock units" or "PSUs"), restrictions lapse when those performance measures have been deemed achieved. Compensation cost for PSUs is recognized on a straight-line basis during the period from the date on which the likelihood of the PSUs being earned is deemed probable and (x) the end of the fiscal year during which such PSUs are expected to vest or (y) the date on which awards of such PSUs may be approved by the compensation committee of the Company's board of directors (the "Compensation Committee") on a discretionary basis, as applicable. PSUs are included in total shares of common stock outstanding upon the lapse of applicable restrictions. PSUs are included in total diluted shares of common stock outstanding when the performance measures have been deemed achieved but the PSUs have not yet been issued.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Fair value for stock options and warrants is calculated using the Black-Scholes valuation model and is expensed on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the grant. Compensation cost is reduced for forfeitures as they occur in accordance with ASU 2016-09, *Simplifying the Accounting for Share-Based Payments* (“ASU 2016-09”).

The Company adopted ASU No. 2018-07, *Improvements to Nonemployee Share-Based Payment Accounting* (“ASU 2018-07”) as of January 1, 2019 on a modified retrospective basis. In accordance with ASU 2018-07, the Company recognizes compensation cost for grants to non-employees on a straight-line basis over the period of the grant. Prior periods have not been restated and were accounted for under the previous method where at each reporting period prior to the lapse of restrictions on warrants, time-based restricted stock and PSUs granted to non-employees, the Company remeasured the aggregate compensation cost of such grants using the Company’s fair value at the end of such reporting period and revised the straight-line recognition of compensation cost in line with such remeasured amount.

Leases

The Company has operating leases for certain properties for its offices and showrooms and for copiers. The Company adopted ASU No. 2016-02, *Leases* (“ASU 2016-02” or “ASC 842”) as of January 1, 2019 using the modified retrospective method as of the period of adoption. The Company elected the package of practical expedients upon transition where the Company did not reassess the lease classification and initial direct costs for leases that existed prior to adoption. Additionally, the Company did not reassess contracts entered into prior to adoption to determine whether the arrangement was or contained a lease. In accordance with ASU 2016-02, for leases over twelve months the Company records a right-of-use asset and a lease liability representing the present value of future lease payments. Rent expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. The Company will test its right-of-use (“ROU”) assets for impairment in accordance with ASC 360. See Note 11 for further information.

Income Taxes

Current income taxes are based on the respective periods’ taxable income for federal, foreign and state income tax reporting purposes. Deferred tax liabilities and assets are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and income tax bases of assets and liabilities, using statutory tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. In accordance with ASU No. 2015-17, *Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes*, all deferred income taxes are reported and classified as non-current. A valuation allowance is required if, based on the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

The Company applies the FASB guidance on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. The guidance clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise’s financial statements in accordance with other authoritative GAAP and prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement process for financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The guidance also addresses derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. During the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company did not have any reserves or interest and penalties to record through current income tax expense in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes* (“ASC 740”). Interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions, if any, are recorded in income tax expense. Tax years that remain open for assessment for federal and state tax purposes include the years ended December 31, 2016 through December 31, 2019.

Earnings Per Share

Basic loss per share (“EPS”) attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries is computed by dividing net loss attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period, excluding the effects of any potentially

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

dilutive securities. Diluted EPS gives effect to all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding during the reporting period, including stock options, PSUs and warrants, using the treasury stock method, and convertible debt, using the if-converted method. Diluted EPS excludes all potentially dilutive shares of common stock if their effect is anti-dilutive. In periods when there is a net loss, diluted loss per share is equal to basic loss per share, since the effect of including any common stock equivalents would be anti-dilutive. Basic weighted-average common shares outstanding is equivalent to diluted weighted-average common shares outstanding for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 for the calculation of basic loss per share attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries.

The computation of diluted EPS attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 excludes the common stock equivalents of the following potentially dilutive securities because their inclusion would be anti-dilutive:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Unvested restricted stock	475,387	1,233,703	166,607
Performance based restricted stock	—	58,275	65,087
Total	<u>475,387</u>	<u>1,291,978</u>	<u>231,694</u>

The weighted-average common shares outstanding used to calculate diluted EPS from discontinued operations for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 are 64,760,823, 64,992,059 and 63,093,437, respectively.

Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments which potentially expose the Company to credit risk consist primarily of cash, restricted cash, accounts receivable and equity securities. Cash is held to meet working capital needs and future acquisitions. Restricted cash is pledged as collateral for a comparable amount of irrevocable standby letters of credit for certain of the Company's leased properties. Substantially all of the Company's cash, restricted cash and equity securities are deposited with high quality financial institutions. At times, however, such cash, restricted cash and equity securities may be in deposit accounts that exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance limit. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts as of December 31, 2019.

Concentration of credit risk with respect to accounts receivable is minimal due to the collection history and the nature of the Company's revenue arrangements. The Company performs periodic credit evaluations of its customers' financial condition. The allowance for doubtful accounts is based upon the expected collectability of all accounts receivable.

Customer Concentrations

The Company recorded net revenues from continuing operations of \$101.6 million, \$127.3 million and \$124.8 million during the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2019, three licensees represented at least 10% of net revenue, accounting for 19%, 16% and 14% of the Company's net revenue from continuing operations. During the year ended December 31, 2018, three licensees represented at least 10% of net revenue, each accounting for 18%, 12% and 11% of the Company's net revenue from continuing operations. During the year ended December 31, 2017, three licensees represented at least 10% of net revenue, accounting for 15%, 14% and 14% of the Company's net revenue from continuing operations.

Loss Contingencies

The Company recognizes contingent losses that are both probable and estimable. In this context, probable means circumstances under which events are likely to occur. The Company records legal costs pertaining to contingencies as incurred.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Noncontrolling Interests

Noncontrolling interest recorded for the year ended December 31, 2019 represents an income allocation to Elan Polo International, Inc., a member of DVS Footwear International, LLC (“DVS LLC”) and loss allocations to With You, Inc., a member of With You LLC (the partnership between the Company and Jessica Simpson) and JALP, LLC (“JALP”), a member of FUL IP Holdings, LLC (“FUL IP”). Noncontrolling interest recorded for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 represents income allocations to DVS LLC, With You, Inc. and loss allocations to JALP. The following table sets forth the noncontrolling interest for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	(in thousands)		
With You LLC	\$(6,230)	\$5,607	\$ 5,816
DVS LLC	659	614	581
FUL IP	(465)	(715)	(2,225)
Net (loss) income attributable to noncontrolling interests	<u>\$(6,036)</u>	<u>\$5,506</u>	<u>\$ 4,172</u>

The following table sets forth the noncontrolling interest as of December 31, 2019 and 2018:

	DVS LLC	FUL IP	With You LLC	Total
	(in thousands)			
Balance at January 1, 2018	\$2,668	\$2,186	\$66,693	\$71,547
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests . . .	614	(715)	5,607	5,506
Impact of adoption of ASC 606	—	—	355	355
Distributions	(581)	(975)	(5,126)	(6,682)
Balance at December 31, 2018	<u>2,701</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>67,529</u>	<u>70,726</u>
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests . . .	659	(465)	(6,230)	(6,036)
Distributions	(614)	—	(4,752)	(5,366)
Balance at December 31, 2019	<u>\$2,746</u>	<u>\$ 31</u>	<u>\$56,547</u>	<u>\$59,324</u>

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company wrote-off a receivable related to the previous sale of the *FUL* trademark. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded a loss on sale of assets of \$2.0 million related to the sale of the *FUL* trademark.

Reportable Segment

An operating segment, in part, is a component of an enterprise whose operating results are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker (the “CODM”) to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance. Operating segments may be aggregated only to a limited extent. The Company’s CODM, the Chief Executive Officer, reviews financial information presented on a consolidated basis, accompanied by disaggregated information about revenues for purposes of making operating decisions and assessing financial performance. Accordingly, the Company has determined that it has a single operating and reportable segment. In addition, the Company has no foreign operations or any assets in foreign locations. The majority of the Company’s operations consist of a single revenue stream, which is the licensing of its trademark portfolio, with additional revenues derived from certain commissions.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

ASU No. 2019-12, “Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes (Topic 740)”

In December 2019, the FASB issued ASU No. 2019-12, *Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes (Topic 740)* (“ASU 2019-12”), which simplifies the accounting for income taxes by eliminating certain exceptions to the guidance in ASC 740 related to intraperiod tax allocations, the methodology for calculating income taxes in an interim period and the recognition of deferred tax liabilities related to outside basis differences. The standard also simplifies GAAP for other areas of ASC 740 by clarifying and amending existing guidance related to accounting for franchise taxes and accounting for transactions that result in a step-up in the tax basis of goodwill.

ASU 2019-12 is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2020, and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect the adoption of ASU 2019-12 to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

ASU No. 2018-18, “Collaborative Arrangements (Topic 808): Clarifying the Interaction between Topic 808 and Topic 606”

In November 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-18, *Collaborative Arrangements (Topic 808): Clarifying the Interaction between Topic 808 and Topic 606* (“ASU 2018-18”). ASU 2018-18 amends ASC 808, *Collaborative Arrangements* (“ASC 808”) and ASC 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (“ASC 606”) to clarify that certain transactions between participants in a collaborative arrangement should be accounted for under ASC 606 when the counterparty is a customer.

ASU 2018-18 is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2019, and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect the adoption of ASU 2018-18 to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

ASU No. 2018-13, “Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework — Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement”

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-13, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework — Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurement* (“ASU 2018-13”). ASU 2018-13 eliminates, amends, and adds certain disclosure requirements for fair value measurements.

ASU 2018-13 is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2019, and early adoption is permitted for the entire standard or for the provisions that eliminate or amend disclosure requirements. The Company does not expect the adoption of ASU 2018-13 to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 3 — FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

ASC 820-10, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* (“ASC 820-10”), defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in GAAP and provides for expanded disclosure about fair value measurements. ASC 820-10 applies to all other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements.

The Company determines or calculates the fair value of financial instruments using quoted market prices in active markets when such information is available or using appropriate present value or other valuation techniques, such as discounted cash flow analyses, incorporating available market discount rate information for similar types of instruments while estimating for non-performance and liquidity risk. These techniques are significantly affected by the assumptions used, including the discount rate, credit spreads and estimates of future cash flows.

Assets and liabilities typically recorded at fair value on a non-recurring basis to which ASC 820-10 applies include:

- non-financial assets and liabilities initially measured at fair value in an acquisition or business combination, and
- long-lived assets measured at fair value due to an impairment assessment under ASC 360-10-15, *Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*.

This topic defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date and establishes a three-level hierarchy, which encourages an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. ASC 820-10 requires that assets and liabilities recorded at fair value be classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

- Level 1 — inputs utilize quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access.
- Level 2 — inputs utilize other-than-quoted prices that are observable, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, and inputs such as interest rates and yield curves that are observable at commonly quoted intervals.
- Level 3 — inputs are unobservable and are typically based on the Company’s own assumptions, including situations where there is little, if any, market activity. Both observable and unobservable inputs may be used to determine the fair value of positions that are classified within the Level 3 classification.

In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, the Company classifies such financial assets or liabilities based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. The Company’s assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the asset or liability.

On June 10, 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO. As a result, indefinite-lived intangible assets decreased by \$330.1 million which was recorded within assets from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2018. During the first quarter of 2019, the Company had recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$161.2 million for these indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* trademarks. The impairments arose during the sale process for the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* brands (as discussed in Notes 4 and 7) due to the difference in the fair value as indicated by the sales price as compared to the carrying values of the intangible assets included in the transaction. The sale of the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* brands was approved by the Board of Directors during the second quarter of 2019, to allow the Company to achieve one of its top priorities in significantly reducing its debt.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Going forward the Company's strategy is to focus on higher margin brands that are well suited for growing health, wellness and beauty categories.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$33.1 million consisting of \$28.5 million related to the *Jessica Simpson* trademark and \$4.6 million related to the *Joe's* trademark. The impairments arose due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands. Fair value for each trademark was determined based on the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows, a Level 3 measurement within the fair value hierarchy. The following table shows the change in indefinite-lived intangible assets for the year ended December 31, 2019 (in thousands):

Balance at January 1, 2019	\$624,985
Additions	82
Impairment charges	(33,109)
Balance at December 31, 2019	<u>\$591,958</u>

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$17.9 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of two of the Company's brands: *Ellen Tracy* and *Caribbean Joe*. The impairments arose due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands. Fair value for each trademark was determined based on the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows, a Level 3 measurement within the fair value hierarchy. The Company determined that certain trademarks which had been impaired during the year ended December 31, 2018 should no longer be classified as indefinite-lived intangible assets. The Company recorded \$0.3 million in amortization during the year ended December 31, 2018 related to these trademarks. The following table shows the change in indefinite-lived intangible assets for the year ended December 31, 2018 (in thousands):

Balance at January 1, 2018	\$660,789
Additions	216
Impairment charges	(17,899)
Reclassified to finite-lived intangible assets	(6,951)
Sale of trademarks	(11,170)
Ending balance at December 31, 2018	<u>\$624,985</u>

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$36.5 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of five of the Company's brands: *Caribbean Joe*, *Revo*, *Franklin Mint*, *Nevados*, and *FUL*. Fair value for each trademark was determined based on the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows, a Level 3 measure within the fair value hierarchy. The impairments arose due to reduced contractual minimums or reduced sales forecasts in key distribution channels for these brands. When an intangible asset's useful life is no longer considered to be indefinite, it must be amortized over the remaining period that it is expected to contribute to cash flows. The Company determined that certain trademarks which had been impaired during the year ended December 31, 2017 should no longer be classified as indefinite-lived intangible assets. The Company recorded less than \$0.1 million in amortization during the year ended December 31, 2017 related to these trademarks.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company recorded a non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$304.1 million. The quantitative evaluation of goodwill impairment included an assessment of fair value under the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows, a Level 3 measure within the fair value hierarchy. See Note 8 for further details.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, there were no assets or liabilities that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis, except for the Company's equity securities (see Note 2) and interest rate swaps (see Note 9). There was no change to fair value level hierarchy classification for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018. The following table sets forth the carrying value and the fair value of the Company's financial assets and liabilities required to be disclosed at December 31, 2019 and 2018:

Financial Instrument	Level	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
		12/31/2019	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2018
		(in thousands)			
Equity securities	1	\$ 47	\$ 627	\$ 47	\$ 627
Interest rate swaps – liability	2	\$ 6,514	\$ 2,019	\$ 6,514	\$ 2,019
Term loans	2	\$453,831	\$519,850	\$451,483	\$515,742
Revolving loan	2	\$ 14,358	\$115,000	\$ 14,323	\$114,827

The carrying amounts of the Company's cash, restricted cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable approximate fair value due to their short-term maturities.

On December 10, 2018, the Company entered into interest rate swap agreements related to its term loans (the "2018 Swap Agreements") with certain financial institutions. The Company recorded its interest rates swaps in accrued expense and other long-term liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets at fair value using Level 2 inputs. The 2018 Swap Agreements have a \$300 million notional value and \$150 million matures on December 31, 2021 and \$150 million matures on January 4, 2022.

The Company's risk management objective and strategy with respect to the 2018 Swap Agreements is to reduce its exposure to variability in cash flows on a portion of the Company's floating-rate debt. The 2018 Swap Agreements protect the Company from increases in changes in its cash flows attributable to changes in a contractually specified interest rate on an amount of borrowing equal to the then outstanding swap notional. The Company will periodically assess the effectiveness of the hedge (both prospective and retrospective) by performing a single regression analysis that was prepared at the inception of the hedging relationship. To the extent the hedging relationship is highly effective, the gain or loss on the swap will be recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss and reclassified into interest expense in the same period during which the hedged transactions affect earnings.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company determined that a portion of one of the hedges was no longer effective due to the repayment of certain debt with the proceeds from the sale of MSLO (see Note 9). As a result, in accordance with ASC 815-30-40-6A, the Company de-designated it as a cash flow hedge and reclassified a loss of \$0.4 million from other comprehensive loss to other expense in the consolidated statement of operations. Changes in the fair value of the de-designated interest rate swap after the de-designation date are being recognized through continuing operations. The Company recorded a loss of \$0.6 million in other expense from continuing operations in the consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2019.

The components of the 2018 Swap Agreements as of December 31, 2019 are as follows:

	Notional Value	Derivative Asset	Derivative Liability
		(in thousands)	
LIBOR based loans	\$300,000	\$—	\$6,514

For purposes of this fair value disclosure, the Company based its fair value estimate for the Term Loans and Revolving Loan (each, as defined in Note 9) on its internal valuation whereby the Company applied the discounted cash flow method to its expected cash flow payments due under the loan agreements based on interest rates as of December 31, 2019 and 2018 for debt with similar risk characteristics and maturities.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 4 — DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

On June 10, 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO, a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, for \$166 million in cash consideration, plus additional amounts in respect of pre-closing accounts receivable that are received after the closing, subject to certain adjustments, pursuant to the Purchase Agreement with the Buyer entered into on April 16, 2019. In addition, the Purchase Agreement provides for an earnout of up to \$40,000,000 payable to the Company if certain performance targets are achieved during the three calendar years ending December 31, 2020, December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022. MSLO and its subsidiaries were engaged in the business of promoting, marketing and licensing the *Martha Stewart* and the *Emeril Lagasse* brands through various distribution channels. The Company recorded a pre-tax loss of \$4.3 million on the sale of MSLO during the year ended December 31, 2019 which is recorded in discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations.

During the first quarter of 2019, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$161.2 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* trademarks. The impairments arose during the sale process for the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* brands due to the difference in the fair value as indicated by the sales price as compared to the carrying values of the intangible assets included in the transaction. The sale of the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* brands was approved by the Board of Directors on April 15, 2019, to allow the Company to achieve one of its top priorities in significantly reducing its debt. Going forward the Company's strategy is to focus on higher margin brands that are well suited for growing health, wellness and beauty categories. These charges are included in discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations. The Company recorded a net loss from discontinued operations of \$125.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019.

The financial results of MSLO through December 31, 2019 are presented as (loss) income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes in the consolidated statements of operations. The following table presents the discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Net revenue	\$ 18,771	\$42,665	\$ 42,684
Operating expenses	16,481	27,544	25,691
Impairment charges	161,224	—	—
Loss on sale of MSLO	4,273	—	—
(Loss) income from operations	(163,207)	15,121	16,993
Other expense (income)	485	—	(401)
Interest expense	3,570	6,888	891
(Loss) income from discontinued operations before income taxes	(167,262)	8,233	16,503
(Benefit from) provision for income taxes	(42,199)	1,249	(88,112)
(Loss) income from discontinued operations	<u>\$(125,063)</u>	<u>\$ 6,984</u>	<u>\$104,615</u>

The Company used cash proceeds from the MSLO sale to make mandatory prepayments of \$109.6 million on the Revolving Credit Facility and voluntary prepayments of \$44.4 million on its Tranche A-1 Term Loans (see Note 9). In accordance with ASC 205-20-45-6, *Presentation of Financial Statements — Discontinued Operations*, the Company has allocated interest expense of \$3.6 million and \$6.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, related to the portion of debt that was required to be paid as part of the transaction and accretion on certain MSLO legacy and guaranteed payments. No interest expense, except for the accretion on certain MSLO legacy and guaranteed payments of \$0.9 million, was allocated for the year ended December 31, 2017.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company recorded \$6.0 million in transaction costs directly related to the sale of MSLO which are recorded in discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations.

The following table presents the assets and liabilities from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018:

	<u>December 31,</u>	
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<u>Carrying amount of assets included as part of discontinued operations:</u>		
Current Assets:		
Accounts receivable, net	\$ —	\$ 16,602
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	6,839	7,243
Total current assets from discontinued operations	6,839	23,845
Property and equipment, net	—	580
Intangible assets, net	—	330,084
Total assets from discontinued operations	<u>\$6,839</u>	<u>\$354,509</u>
<u>Carrying amount of liabilities included as part of discontinued operations:</u>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$1,959	\$ 11,927
Current portion of deferred revenue	—	3,523
Total current liabilities from discontinued operations	1,959	15,450
Deferred income taxes	—	—
Other long-term liabilities	—	3,629
Total liabilities from discontinued operations	<u>\$1,959</u>	<u>\$ 19,079</u>

The prepaid expenses and other current assets at December 31, 2019 consists of a \$6.8 million receivable due to the Company from the Buyer in accordance with the terms of the Purchase Agreement.

The following table presents the cash flow from discontinued operations for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017:

	<u>Year Ended December 31,</u>		
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
	(in thousands)		
Cash provided by discontinued operating activities	\$40,321	\$ 9,365	\$111,315
Cash used in discontinued investing activities	\$ (44)	\$ (80)	(77)
Cash used in discontinued financing activities	\$ (574)	\$(3,000)	(3,000)

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 5 — REVENUE

The Company has entered into various license agreements that provide revenues in exchange for use of the Company's IP. Licensing agreements are the Company's primary source of revenue. The Company also derives revenue from other sources such as commissions and vendor placement commissions.

Adoption

On January 1, 2018, the Company adopted ASC 606 on a modified retrospective basis for all open contracts as of January 1, 2018. The core principle of ASC 606 is the recognition of revenue when a company transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services. The new guidance defines a five-step approach to achieve this core principle and, in doing so, requires greater use of judgment and estimates and requires expanded disclosures related to the amounts of revenue recognized and judgements made. Under the modified retrospective basis, results for reporting periods beginning after January 1, 2018 are presented under ASC 606. In connection with the adoption of ASC 606 on January 1, 2018, the Company recorded a net increase of \$1.1 million to the opening balance of retained earnings (a reduction of the accumulated deficit).

Disaggregated Revenue

The following table presents revenue disaggregated by source for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	(in thousands)		
Licensing agreements	\$101,161	\$120,350	\$123,948
Other	415	6,940	832
Total	<u>\$101,576</u>	<u>\$127,290</u>	<u>\$124,780</u>

Contract Balances

Contract assets represent unbilled receivables and are presented within accounts receivable, net on the consolidated balance sheets. Contract liabilities represent unearned revenues and are presented within the current portion of deferred revenue on the consolidated balance sheets.

The below table summarizes the Company's contract assets and contract liabilities:

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
	(in thousands)	
Contract assets	\$1,803	\$2,484
Contract liabilities	3,040	4,923

On June 10, 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO, as a result contract assets decreased \$0.7 million and contract liabilities decreased \$0.1 million, and are recorded in current assets and liabilities from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2018.

Performance Obligations

A performance obligation is a promise in a contract to transfer a distinct good or service to the customer. The Company has reviewed its various revenue streams for its existing contracts under the five-step approach. The Company has entered into various license agreements that provide revenues based on

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

guaranteed minimum royalty payments with additional royalty revenues based on a percentage of defined sales. Guaranteed minimum royalty payments (fixed revenue) are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the contract, as defined in each license agreement. Earned royalties and earned royalties in excess of the fixed revenue (variable revenue) are recognized as income during the period corresponding to the licensee's sales. Earned royalties in excess of fixed revenue are only recognized when the Company is reasonably certain that the guaranteed minimums payments for the period, as defined in each license agreement, will be exceeded.

Licensing for trademarks is the Company's largest revenue source. Under ASC 606, the Company's agreements are generally considered symbolic licenses which contain the characteristics of a right-to-access license since the customer is simultaneously receiving the IP and benefiting from it throughout the license period. As such, the Company primarily records revenue from licenses on a straight-line basis over the license period as the performance obligation is satisfied over time. The Company applies its judgment based on historical trends when estimating future revenues and the period over which to recognize revenue when evaluating its licensing contracts.

Deferred revenue will be recognized as the Company fulfills its performance obligations over periods of approximately one to five years.

The below table summarizes amounts related to future performance obligations from continuing operations under fixed contractual arrangements as of December 31, 2019 and the periods in which they are expected to be earned and recognized as revenue:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>Thereafter</u>
	(in thousands)					
Future Performance Obligations	\$43,535	\$27,127	\$6,778	\$4,280	\$36	\$—

The Company does not disclose the amount attributable to unsatisfied or partially satisfied performance obligations for variable revenue contracts in accordance with the optional exemption allowed for under ASC 606. The Company has categorized certain contracts as variable when there is a history and future expectation of exceeding guaranteed minimum royalties.

NOTE 6 — PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment is summarized as follows:

	<u>December 31,</u>	
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	(in thousands)	
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 5,114	\$ 5,114
Computer hardware/equipment	277	524
Leasehold improvements	6,162	6,154
Computer software	570	715
Websites	169	304
Property and equipment	12,292	12,811
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(6,943)	(4,420)
Property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 5,349</u>	<u>\$ 8,391</u>

In June 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO. As a result, property and equipment, net decreased by \$0.6 million which was recorded within assets from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2018.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

There were no impairments of property and equipment recorded in the consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017. The Company reviews the estimated lives of its fixed assets on an ongoing basis. The review indicated that the lives of certain leasehold improvements were shorter than the estimated useful lives used for depreciation purposes. As a result, effective December 1, 2019, the Company changed its estimates of the useful lives of the leasehold improvements to better reflect the estimated periods during which the assets will remain in service. The remaining useful life is four months for these assets. The effect of the change was an increase of \$1.5 million to depreciation and amortization expense from continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2019. Depreciation and amortization expense from continuing operations amounted to \$3.0 million, \$1.7 million and \$1.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

NOTE 7 — INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets are summarized as follows:

December 31, 2019	Useful Lives (Years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization (in thousands)	Net Carrying Amount
Finite-lived intangible assets:				
Trademarks	5 – 15	\$12,491	\$(4,515)	\$ 7,976
Customer agreements	4	2,200	(2,198)	2
Patents	10	95	(64)	31
		<u>\$14,786</u>	<u>\$(6,777)</u>	<u>8,009</u>
Indefinite-lived intangible assets:				
Trademarks				591,958
Intangible assets, net				<u>\$599,967</u>
December 31, 2018	Useful Lives (Years)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization (in thousands)	Net Carrying Amount
Finite-lived intangible assets:				
Trademarks	5 – 15	\$12,438	\$(2,689)	\$ 9,749
Customer agreements	4	2,200	(2,147)	53
Patents	10	361	(321)	40
		<u>\$14,999</u>	<u>\$(5,157)</u>	<u>9,842</u>
Indefinite-lived intangible assets:				
Trademarks				624,985
Intangible assets, net				<u>\$634,827</u>

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Future annual estimated amortization expense is summarized as follows:

Years Ended December 31,	(in thousands)
2020	\$1,839
2021	1,837
2022	1,814
2023	1,388
2024	326
Thereafter	805
	<u>\$8,009</u>

Amortization expense from continuing operations amounted to \$1.9 million, \$1.0 million and \$0.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

Finite-lived intangible assets represent certain trademarks, customer agreements and patents related to the Company's brands. Finite-lived intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The carrying value of finite-lived intangible assets and other long-lived assets is reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable.

Indefinite-lived intangible assets are not amortized, but instead are subject to impairment evaluation. As of December 31, 2019, the trademarks of *Jessica Simpson*, *Avia*, *AND1*, *Joe's*, *GAIAM*, *Caribbean Joe*, and *Ellen Tracy* have been determined to have an indefinite useful life, and accordingly, consistent with ASC Topic 350, no amortization has been recorded in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. Instead, each of these intangible assets are tested for impairment annually and as needed on an individual basis as separate single units of accounting, with any related impairment charge recorded to the statement of operations at the time of determining such impairment. The annual evaluation of the Company's indefinite-lived trademarks is performed as of October 1, the beginning of the Company's fourth fiscal quarter.

When conducting its impairment assessment of indefinite-lived intangible assets, the Company initially performs a qualitative evaluation of whether it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired. If it is determined by a qualitative evaluation that it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired, the Company then tests the asset for recoverability. The Company tests its indefinite-lived intangible assets for recovery in accordance with ASC-820-10-55-3D. When the income approach is used, fair value measurement reflects current market expectations about those future amounts. The income approach is based on the present value of future earnings expected to be generated by a business or asset. Income projections for a future period are discounted at a rate commensurate with the degree of risk associated with future proceeds. A residual or terminal value is also added to the present value of the income to quantify the value of the business beyond the projection period. As such, recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of the asset to its expected future discounted net cash flows. If the carrying amount of such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the recoverability of the assets. Assumptions used in our estimates are as follows: (i) discount rates; (ii) projected annual revenue growth rates; and (iii) projected long-term growth rates. Our estimates also factor in economic conditions and expectations of management which may change in the future based on period-specific facts and circumstances. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell.

In June 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO. As a result, indefinite-lived intangible assets decreased by \$330.1 million which was recorded within assets classified as held for disposition from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2018. During the first quarter of 2019, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$161.2 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the *Martha*

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Stewart and *Emeril Lagasse* trademarks reflected in discontinued operations on the consolidated statements of operations. The impairments arose during the sale process for the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* brands (as discussed in Note 4) due to the difference in the fair value as indicated by the sales price as compared to the carrying values of the intangible assets included in the transaction. The sale of the *Martha Stewart* and *Emeril Lagasse* brands was approved by the Board of Directors during the second quarter of 2019, to allow the Company to achieve one of its top priorities in significantly reducing its debt. Going forward the Company's strategy is to focus on higher margin brands that are well suited for growing health, wellness and beauty categories.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$33.1 million consisting of \$28.5 million related to the *Jessica Simpson* trademark and \$4.6 million related to the *Joe's* trademark. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$17.9 million for indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of two of the Company's non-core brands: *Ellen Tracy* and *Caribbean Joe*. The impairments arose due to reduced growth expectations and the impact of licensee transitions for these brands. Fair value for each trademark was determined based on the income approach using estimates of future discounted cash flows. These charges are included in impairment charges in the consolidated statements of operations.

Due to the identification of impairment indicators during the quarter ended September 30, 2017, the Company performed impairment testing of its goodwill and indefinite-lived assets at September 30, 2017, which replaced its October 1st annual test. As a result of its testing, during the quarter ended September 30, 2017, the Company recorded a non-cash impairment charge of \$36.5 million relating to its indefinite-lived intangible assets related to the trademarks of *Caribbean Joe*, *Revo*, *Franklin Mint*, *Nevados*, and *FUL*. The impairments arose due to reduced contractual minimums or reduced sales forecasts in key distribution channels for these brands. In addition, in connection with its goodwill impairment testing performed at December 31, 2017, the Company performed impairment testing of its indefinite-lived assets at December 31, 2017, noting no additional impairment of its indefinite-lived intangible assets. See Note 8 — Goodwill for further details. When an intangible asset's useful life is no longer considered to be indefinite, it must be amortized over the remaining period that it is expected to contribute to cash flows. The Company determined that certain trademarks which had been impaired during the year ended December 31, 2017 should no longer be classified as indefinite-lived intangible assets. The Company recorded less than \$0.1 million in amortization during the year ended December 31, 2017 related to these trademarks.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company sold both the *Revo* and *FUL* trademarks and incurred a loss on the sale of the assets of \$7.1 million.

NOTE 8 — GOODWILL

Goodwill was tested for impairment at the reporting unit level (the Company has determined that it has a single reporting unit) on an annual basis (October 1st) and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value. As discussed below, during 2017, due to impairment indicators noted in between annual tests, the Company performed impairment testing at September 30, 2017, which replaced its October 1st annual test. In evaluating goodwill for impairment, the Company first assesses qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of its reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. Qualitative factors considered include, for example, macroeconomic and industry conditions, overall financial performance and other relevant entity-specific events. If the Company bypasses the qualitative assessment, or concludes that it is more likely than not that the fair value of its reporting unit is less than its carrying value, it then performs a quantitative impairment test to identify potential goodwill impairment and measure the amount of goodwill impairment to be recognized, if any. If the carrying value of the reporting unit's goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of the goodwill, an impairment loss is recognized in the amount of that excess, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Due to impairment indicators noted during the third quarter of 2017, specifically the impairment of certain tradenames due to reduced contractual minimums or reduced sales forecasts in key distribution channels, the Company, with the assistance of a third party valuation specialist, performed a quantitative assessment at September 30, 2017, which replaced its October 1st annual test. Fair value for the quantitative assessment was determined under an income approach using estimates of discounted future cash flows. The income approach relies on assumptions such as the Company's projected future earnings and appropriate discount rates.

Significant assumptions used in the income approach were as follows: (i) discount rates; (ii) projected annual revenue growth rates; and (iii) projected long-term growth rates. The Company's estimates also factor in economic conditions and expectations of management which may change in the future based on period-specific facts and circumstances. The Company corroborated the results of the income approach by reconciling to within a reasonable range of the Company's market capitalization, (calculated as total common shares outstanding multiplied by the common equity price per share, as adjusted for a control premium factor). The control premium was estimated based upon control premiums observed in comparable market transactions. Reconciling items identified included the benefit of the Company's fully reserved tax assets for which the market may not have been giving full value and depressed market multiples experienced by the entities within our brand licensing peer group. Based on the results of the quantitative assessment, the Company determined that goodwill was not impaired as of September 30, 2017.

Due to additional impairment indicators noted during the fourth quarter of 2017, specifically a sharp and continued decline in its stock price and the related decline in its market capitalization, the Company determined that there was a fourth quarter impairment indicator and a quantitative impairment test was required to be performed at December 31, 2017. During the fourth quarter of 2017, the Company's stock price and market capitalization declined approximately 41%, consistent with the decline in market capitalization of similar companies in the Company's sector. The Company evaluated the fair value of its reporting unit under the income approach (in the same manner as noted above in its assessment at September 30, 2017), adjusting its assumptions to reflect additional market risk in the discount rate (from 10.25% to 11.25%), as well as adjusted future effective tax rates, noting that the fair value of its reporting unit indicated by the income approach at December 31, 2017 was no longer in excess of its carrying value.

At December 31, 2017, after comparing the results of the income approach to the market capitalization approach, the Company noted it could no longer corroborate the results of the income approach by reconciling to within a reasonable range of the Company's market capitalization, including an assumed control premium. As discussed above, the two primary differences between the market approach and income approach were determined to be the Company's fully reserved tax assets, for which the market may not have been giving full value and depressed market multiples experienced by all entities within the brand licensing peer group. The reconciliation was significantly impacted by the decreased market capitalization, as well as the enactment in December 2017 of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which reduced the aforementioned reconciling item for fully reserved tax assets. As such, the Company determined that the value indicated by the market capitalization approach, calculated using the December 31, 2017 closing stock price of \$1.78 and an estimated control premium factor of 20%, was the most appropriate measure of the fair value of the Company as of December 31, 2017. Based on this analysis, the fair value of the Company's single reporting unit was below its carrying value by an amount greater than the carrying value of goodwill, and the Company recorded an impairment charge of \$304.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2017 to fully write off its goodwill.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 9 — LONG-TERM DEBT

The components of long-term debt are as follows:

	December 31,	
	2019	2018
	(in thousands)	
Secured Term Loans	\$453,831	\$519,850
Revolving Credit Facility	14,358	115,000
Unamortized deferred financing costs	(22,189)	(24,063)
Total long-term debt, net of unamortized deferred financing costs	446,000	610,787
Less: current portion of long-term debt	12,750	28,300
Long-term debt	<u>\$433,250</u>	<u>\$582,487</u>

Debt Facilities

On December 30, 2019, the Company amended its Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the “Amended BoA Credit Agreement”) with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent and collateral agent and the lenders party thereto (the “BoA Facility Loan Parties”). The loans under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement will be subject to quarterly amortization payments of \$2.5 million through September 30, 2020, \$3.25 million through September 30, 2021 and \$4 million for each fiscal quarter thereafter. The Amended BoA Credit Agreement modifies the calculation of Consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the agreement) by permitting additional addbacks and specifying the EBITDA amounts for the quarters ended September 30, 2018, December 31, 2018, March 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019. The Amended BoA Credit Agreement allows for the netting of up to \$5 million in cash of the Company and its subsidiaries for purposes of calculating the leverage ratio covenant. The Company reduced the available commitments under the revolving facility to \$80 million. During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company incurred \$1.3 million in lender fees associated with the amendment which was recorded in deferred financing costs in accordance with ASC 470, *Debt* and included in long-term debt, net of current portion in the consolidated balance sheet. These fees are being amortized using the effective interest rate method over the remainder of the term of the Amended BoA Credit Agreement.

On August 12, 2019, the Company amended its Third Amended and Restated First Lien Credit Agreement (the “Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement”) with Wilmington Trust, National Association, as administrative agent and collateral agent (the “FS/KKR Agent”) and the lenders party thereto (the “FS/KKR Facility Loan Parties”). Pursuant to the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement, no mandatory amortization payments are required until September 30, 2020. Thereafter, the loans under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement will be subject to quarterly amortization payments of \$1.0 million. Pursuant to the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement, no payment with proceeds of any consolidated excess cash flow will be required to be made prior to the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020. The Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement modified the calculation of Consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the agreement) by permitting additional addbacks and specifying the EBITDA amounts for the quarters ended September 30, 2018, December 31, 2018, March 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019. The Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement allows for the netting of up to \$5 million in cash of the Company and its subsidiaries for purposes of calculating the leverage ratio covenant. The Company also agreed under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement not to borrow more than \$30 million under the Bank of America Revolving Credit Facility. During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company incurred \$3.3 million in lender fees associated with the amendment which was recorded in deferred financing costs in accordance with ASC 470, *Debt* and included in long-term debt, net of current portion in the consolidated balance sheet. These fees are being amortized using the effective interest rate method over the remainder of the term of the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

On June 10, 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO. The Company used cash proceeds from the MSLO sale to make mandatory prepayments of \$109.6 million of the Revolving Credit Facility and voluntary prepayments of \$44.4 million on its Tranche A-1 Term Loans.

The Company expensed \$0.8 million of deferred financing costs during the year ended December 31, 2019, included in Interest expense, net in the consolidated statement of operations.

On August 7, 2018, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into the Amended BoA Credit Agreement with the BoA Facility Loan Parties and (ii) the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement with the FS/KKR Agent and the FS/KKR Facility Loan Parties. The Company used a portion of the proceeds of the \$335.0 million loans made to the Company under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement to prepay loans under the FS/KKR Credit Agreement.

During 2018, the Company incurred \$14.6 million in lender and certain third-party fees associated with debt refinancing, which was recorded as deferred financing costs in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt* and included in Long-term debt, net of current portion in the consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2018. These fees are being amortized using the effective interest rate method over the terms of the Amended BoA Credit Agreement and Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement. The Company expensed \$0.1 million of deferred financing costs, included in Interest Expense, net in the consolidated statement of operations, as a result of a partial extinguishment of the BoA Credit Agreement in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt* in connection with the Company's entry into the Amended BoA Credit Agreement.

The Amended BoA Credit Agreement provides for several five-year senior secured credit facilities, consisting of (i) Tranche A Term Loans in an aggregate principal amount of \$150.0 million (the "Amended Tranche A Loans"), (ii) Tranche A-1 Term Loans in an aggregate principal amount of \$70.0 million (the "Amended Tranche A-1 Loans" and, together with the Tranche A Loans, the "Amended BoA Term Loans") and (iii) revolving credit commitments in the aggregate principal amount of \$130.0 million (the "Amended Revolving Credit Commitments" and, the loans under the Revolving Credit Commitments, the "Amended Revolving Loans"). On the Closing Date, the total amount outstanding under the New Amended BoA Credit Agreement was \$335.0 million, including (i) \$150.0 million of Amended Tranche A Loans, (ii) \$70.0 million of Amended Tranche A-1 Loans and (iii) \$115.0 million of Amended Revolving Loans.

The loans under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement bear interest, at the Company's option, at a rate equal to (i) with respect to the Amended Revolving Loans and the Amended Tranche A Loans (a) the LIBOR rate plus 3.50% per annum or (b) the base rate plus 2.50% per annum and (ii) with respect to the Amended Tranche A-1 Loans (a) the LIBOR rate plus 7.00% per annum or (b) the base rate plus 6.00% per annum. The loans under the New Amended BoA Credit Agreement provide for interest rate reductions if certain leverage ratios are achieved, with minimum interest rates equal to (i) with respect to the Amended Revolving Loans and the Amended Tranche A Loans (a) the LIBOR rate plus 3.00% per annum or (b) the base rate plus 2.00% per annum and (ii) with respect to the Amended Tranche A-1 Loans (a) the LIBOR rate plus 6.00% per annum or (b) the base rate plus 5.00% per annum. The undrawn portions of the Revolving Credit Commitments are subject to a commitment fee of 0.375% per annum.

The Company may make voluntary prepayments of the loans outstanding under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement, subject to the payment of customary "breakage" costs with respect to LIBOR-based borrowings and, in certain cases, to the prepayment premium set forth in the Amended BoA Credit Agreement. Additionally, the Company is mandated to make prepayments (without payment of a premium or penalty) under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement amounting to: (i) the loans outstanding under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement plus, (a) where intellectual property is disposed, 50.0% of the disposed intellectual property's orderly liquidation value, and (b) where any other assets constituting collateral are disposed or upon the receipt of certain insurance proceeds, 100% of the net proceeds thereof, subject to certain reinvestment rights; and (ii) the Amended Tranche A-1 Loans to the extent that the outstanding principal amount thereof exceeds 15.0% of the orderly liquidation value of the registered trademarks owned by the BoA Facility Loan Parties. The loans under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement are subject to quarterly

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

amortization payments of \$2.5 million through September 30, 2020, \$3.25 million through September 30, 2021 and \$4 million for each fiscal quarter thereafter.

The Amended BoA Credit Agreement contains customary representations and warranties and customary affirmative and negative covenants applicable to the BoA Facility Loan Parties and their subsidiaries. Moreover, the Amended BoA Credit Agreement contains financial covenants that require the BoA Facility Loan Parties and their subsidiaries to (i) maintain a positive net income (as defined in the Amended BoA Credit Agreement) (ii) satisfy a maximum loan to value ratio initially set at 50.0% (applicable to the Amended Revolving Loans and Amended Tranche A Loans) decreasing over the term of the Amended BoA Credit Agreement until reaching a final maximum loan to value ratio of 42.5% and (iii) satisfy a maximum consolidated first lien leverage ratio, initially set at 3.875:1.00, decreasing over the term of the Amended BoA Credit Agreement until reaching a final maximum ratio of 2.875:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending September 30, 2022 and thereafter.

The Amended BoA Credit Agreement contains certain customary events of default, including a change of control. If an event of default occurs and is not cured within any applicable grace period or not waived, the Bank of America Agent, at the request of the lenders under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement, must take various actions, including, without limitation, the acceleration of all amounts due under the Amended BoA Credit Agreement.

The Company may request an increase in (i) the Revolving Credit Facility and Tranche A Loans as would not cause the consolidated first lien leverage ratio, determined on a pro forma basis after giving effect to any such increase, to exceed 2.80:1.00 and (ii) the Tranche A-1 Loans, as would not cause the consolidated first lien leverage ratio, determined on a pro forma basis after giving effect to any such increase, to exceed (a) with respect to any increase, the proceeds of which will be used solely to finance an acquisition, 3.00:1.00 and (b) with respect to any other increase, 2.90:1.00, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions in the Amended BoA Credit Agreement. At December 31, 2019, the Company is in compliance with the covenants included in the Amended BoA Credit Agreement.

The Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement provides for a five and a half-year \$314.0 million senior secured term loan facility. The Company may request one or more additional term loan facilities or the increase of term loan commitments under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement as would not have caused the consolidated total leverage ratio, determined on a pro forma basis after giving effect to any such addition and increase, to exceed 6.00:1.00, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions in the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement.

The loans under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement bear interest, at the Company's option, at a rate equal to either (i) the LIBOR rate plus 8.75% per annum or (ii) the base rate plus 7.75% per annum.

The Company may make voluntary prepayments of the loans outstanding under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement, subject to the payment of customary "breakage" costs with respect to LIBOR-based borrowings and, in certain cases, to the prepayment premium set forth in the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement. The Company is mandated to make prepayments (without payment of a premium or penalty) of loans outstanding under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement amounting to: (i) where intellectual property was disposed, 50.0% of the disposed intellectual property's orderly liquidation value, (ii) where any other asset constituting collateral is disposed or upon the receipt of certain insurance proceeds, 100% of the net proceeds thereof, subject to certain reinvestment rights, and (iii) any consolidated excess cash flow, in an amount equal to (a) in the event the consolidated total leverage ratio was at least 4.00:1.00, 75% thereof, (b) in the event the consolidated total leverage ratio was less than 4.00:1.00 but at least 3.00:1.00, 50% thereof and (c) in the event the consolidated total leverage ratio was less than 3.00:1.00, 0% thereof. No mandatory amortization payments are required until September 30, 2020. Thereafter, the loans under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement will be subject to quarterly amortization payments of \$1.0 million.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

The Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement contains customary representations and warranties and customary affirmative and negative covenants applicable to the FS/KKR Facility Loan Parties and their subsidiaries. Moreover, the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement contains financial covenants that require the FS/KKR Facility Loan Parties and their subsidiaries to satisfy (i) a maximum consolidated total leverage ratio, initially set at 7.25:1.00, decreasing over the term of the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement until reaching a final maximum ratio of 6.25:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending September 30, 2022 and thereafter and (ii) a maximum consolidated first lien leverage ratio, initially set at 3.875:1.00, decreasing over the term of the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement until reaching a final maximum ratio of 2.875:1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending September 30, 2022 and thereafter. At December 31, 2019, the Company is in compliance with the covenants included in the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement.

The Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement contains certain customary events of default, including a change of control. If an event of default occurs and is not cured within any applicable grace period or is not waived, the FS/KKR Agent, at the request of the lenders under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement, is required to take various actions, including, without limitation, the acceleration of amounts due thereunder.

The Company may request one or more additional term loan facilities or the increase of term loan commitments under the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement as would not have caused the consolidated total leverage ratio, determined on a pro forma basis after giving effect to any such addition and increase, to exceed 6.00:1.00, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions in the Amended FS/KKR Credit Agreement.

Interest Expense from Continuing Operations

Interest expense, net during the year ended December 31, 2019 includes interest incurred under our loan agreements of \$48.2 million, non-cash interest related to the amortization of deferred financing costs of \$5.6 million, the expensing of \$0.8 million of deferred financing costs as a result of a partial extinguishment on the Revolving and Term loans in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt* and non-cash interest income of \$0.8 million related to the accretion of the present value of certain payment arrangements.

Interest expense, net during the year ended December 31, 2018 includes interest incurred under our loan agreements of \$50.9 million, non-cash interest related to the amortization of deferred financing costs of \$4.5 million, the expensing of \$0.1 million of deferred financing costs as a result of a partial extinguishment of the BoA Credit Agreement in accordance with ASC 470 — *Debt* in connection with the Company's entry into the Amended BoA Credit Agreement and non-cash interest income of \$0.3 million related to the accretion of the present value of certain payment arrangements.

Interest expense, net during the year ended December 31, 2017 includes interest incurred under our loan agreements of \$55.1 million and non-cash interest related to the amortization of deferred financing costs of \$3.9 million.

Interest Rate Swaps

On December 10, 2018, the Company entered into the 2018 Swap Agreements with certain financial institutions. The Company recorded its interest rate swaps in accrued expenses and other long-term liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets at fair value using Level 2 inputs. The 2018 Swap Agreements have a \$300 million notional value, and \$150 million matures on December 31, 2021 and \$150 million matures on January 4, 2022.

The Company's risk management objective and strategy with respect to the 2018 Swap Agreements is to reduce its exposure to variability in cash flows on a portion of the Company's floating-rate debt. The 2018 Swap Agreements protect the Company from changes in its cash flows attributable to changes in a contractually specified interest rate on an amount of borrowing equal to the then outstanding swap notional.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

The Company will periodically assess the effectiveness of the hedge (both prospective and retrospective) by performing a single regression analysis that was prepared at the inception of the hedging relationship. To the extent the hedging relationship is highly effective, the gain or loss on the swap will be recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss and reclassified into interest expense in the same period during which the hedged transactions affect earnings.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company determined that a portion of one of the hedges was no longer effective due to the repayment of certain debt with the proceeds from the sale of MSLO (see Note 4). As a result, in accordance with ASC 815-30-40-6A, the Company de-designated it as a cash flow hedge and reclassified a loss of \$0.4 million from other comprehensive loss to other expense in the consolidated statement of operations. Changes in the fair value of the de-designated interest rate swap after the de-designation date are being recognized through continuing operations. The Company recorded a loss of \$0.6 million in other expense from continuing operations in the consolidated statements of operation for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Debt Maturities

As of December 31, 2019, the Company's debt maturities for the next five years and thereafter on a calendar year basis are as follows:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>Thereafter</u>
				(in thousands)			
Term Loans	\$453,831	\$12,750	\$17,750	\$20,000	\$111,631	\$291,700	\$—
Revolving Loan	14,358	—	—	—	14,358	—	—
Total	<u>\$468,189</u>	<u>\$12,750</u>	<u>\$17,750</u>	<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>\$125,989</u>	<u>\$291,700</u>	<u>\$—</u>

NOTE 10 — ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES

In June 2019, the Company completed the sale of MSLO. As a result, accounts payable and accrued expenses decreased by \$11.9 million which was recorded within current liabilities from discontinued operations as of December 31, 2018.

Accounts payable and accrued expenses from continuing operations consist of the following:

	<u>December 31,</u>	
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	(in thousands)	
Accounts payable	\$ 2,942	\$ 2,775
Accrued expenses		
Interest	1,025	2,401
Compensation	2,395	2,741
Marketing and commissions	1,402	920
Professional services fees	2,181	112
Interest rate swap liability – current	3,124	528
Licensee settlement payable – current	940	1,883
Other accrued expenses	1,712	240
Total accounts payable and accrued expenses	<u>\$15,721</u>	<u>\$11,600</u>

NOTE 11 — LEASES

The Company has operating leases for certain properties for its offices and showrooms and for copiers. The Company adopted ASU 2016-02 as of January 1, 2019 using the modified retrospective method as of

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

the period of adoption. The Company elected the package of practical expedients upon transition where the Company did not reassess the lease classification and initial direct costs for leases that existed prior to adoption. Additionally, the Company did not reassess contracts entered into prior to adoption to determine whether the arrangement was or contained a lease. At January 1, 2019, the Company did not have any leases that had not yet commenced. The Company also elected the practical expedient to not recognize ROU assets or lease liabilities for leases with a term of twelve months or less.

The Company determines if an arrangement contains a lease and the lease term at contract inception based on the terms of each arrangement. The Company's operating leases contain options to extend and early termination options. The Company will evaluate the terms on a lease-by-lease basis and include options to extend or early termination options when it is reasonably certain that the Company will exercise the option. For arrangements that are identified as leases and are over twelve months the Company records a ROU asset and a lease liability representing the present value of future lease payments. Under ASC 842, the present value of future lease payments must be discounted by using the interest rate implicit in the lease, or if not readily determinable, its incremental borrowing rate. The Company used an average cost of debt of 6.76% as the discount rate for the leases as it is representative of the interest rate that would be charged to borrow an amount equal to the lease payments on a fully collateralized basis.

The Company evaluates its ROU assets for impairment in accordance with ASC 360. No impairment of ROU assets existed as of December 31, 2019.

The operating lease assets and liabilities recorded on the consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2019 are summarized as follows:

Classification on Balance Sheet		December 31, 2019
		(in thousands)
Assets		
Non-current	Right-of-use assets – operating leases	<u>\$50,320</u>
Liabilities		
Current	Current portion of lease liabilities – operating leases	\$ 3,035
Non-current	Lease liabilities – operating leases, net of current portion	<u>54,168</u>
Total operating lease liabilities . . .		<u>\$57,203</u>
Weighted average remaining lease term (in years)		13.3

Rent expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Rent expense for operating leases was \$6.3 million, \$6.0 million and \$5.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Sublease income was \$1.0 million, \$0.7 million and \$0.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. All of the aforementioned amounts are included in continuing operations.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

As of December 31, 2019, the maturities of the Company's lease liabilities were as follows:

	<u>Operating Leases</u> (in thousands)
2020	\$ 6,807
2021	6,718
2022	6,721
2023	6,707
2024	6,856
Thereafter	<u>53,809</u>
Total minimum lease payments	87,618
Less: imputed interest	<u>30,415</u>
Lease liabilities	<u><u>\$57,203</u></u>

NOTE 12 — COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Legal Matters

The Company is in a dispute with a former licensee concerning certain payments allegedly owed to the licensee which the Company disputes. The Company intends to vigorously defend against these claims and pursue a counterclaim. Litigation costs in this matter may be significant.

The Company was served with a lawsuit in March 2020 alleging trademark infringement on the Company's *Swisstech* brand. The Company intends to vigorously defend against these claims and potentially pursue a counterclaim. Litigation costs in this matter may be significant.

We have been cooperating with an investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") into the Company's controls and practices surrounding impairment analyses of goodwill and intangible assets in 2016 and 2017. In the late third quarter and the fourth quarter of 2019, the SEC began interviewing witnesses in connection with this matter. We believe we complied with generally accepted accounting principles during such periods in all financial matters including goodwill and intangible assets but can provide no assurance that the SEC will agree. We cannot predict the duration or outcome of this matter. Costs related to this matter may be significant.

In addition, from time to time, the Company is involved in legal matters arising in the ordinary course of business. While the Company believes that such matters are currently not material, there can be no assurance that matters arising in the ordinary course of business for which the Company is, or could be, involved in litigation, will not have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. Contingent liabilities arising from potential litigation are assessed by management based on the individual analysis of these proceedings and on the opinion of the Company's lawyers and legal consultants.

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company accrued approximately \$2.0 million related to litigation contingencies and claims.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company accrued \$3.2 million related to a legacy litigation settlement claim. These charges are included in discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations.

Assignment Right

The Company had entered into a license agreement for its *Avia* trademark which includes a clause that if the licensee pays to the Company cumulative total royalties of \$100.0 million, the licensee has the right to

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

require the Company to assign full title and ownership of the trademark to the licensee. The first term of the agreement ends on December 31, 2022, but automatically renews in three-year increments unless terminated by the licensee. Based on current projections, the option to exercise this right would come into effect in approximately six years. Until such time, the Company continues to pursue and sign license agreements outside the U.S. and within certain channels of distribution within the U.S. and collect royalties therefrom.

NOTE 13 — PREFERRED STOCK

As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company had 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock authorized with a par value of \$0.01 per share, none of which were designated or issued and outstanding. The board of directors of the Company (the “BOD”) is authorized, with the limitations and restrictions set forth in the Company’s certificate of incorporation, to designate from time to time the terms of the preferred stock.

NOTE 14 — STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN, OPTIONS AND WARRANTS

Stock Options

2005 Stock Incentive Plan

On January 5, 2006, the Company adopted the 2005 Stock Incentive Plan, which authorized the granting of a variety of stock-based incentive awards. The 2005 Stock Incentive Plan was administered by the Company’s BOD, or a committee appointed by the BOD, which determined the recipients and terms of the awards granted. The 2005 Stock Incentive Plan provided for the issuance of both incentive stock options (“ISOs”) and non-qualified stock options (“NQOs”). ISOs could only be granted to employees and NQOs could be granted to directors, officers, employees, consultants, independent contractors and advisors. The 2005 Stock Incentive Plan provided for a total of 366,667 shares of common stock to be reserved for issuance under the 2005 Stock Incentive Plan.

2013 Stock Incentive Plan

On July 24, 2013, the BOD approved and adopted the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan. The 2013 Stock Incentive Plan replaced the 2005 Stock Incentive Plan. No new grants will be granted under the 2005 Stock Incentive Plan as of July 24, 2013. Grants that were made under the 2005 Stock Incentive Plan prior to the BOD’s approval and adoption of the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan will continue to be administered in effect in accordance with their terms. The 2013 Stock Incentive Plan became effective on July 24, 2013 and, subject to the right of the BOD to amend or terminate the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan in accordance with terms and conditions thereof, will remain in effect until all shares of the Company’s common stock reserved for issuance thereunder have been delivered and any restrictions on such shares have lapsed. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no shares of the Company’s common stock may be granted under the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan on or after July 24, 2023.

On December 4, 2015, the Company filed a registration statement, whereby the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan authorizes the issuance of not more than 2,500,000 shares of the Company’s common stock.

The 2013 Stock Incentive Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee. Under the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan, the Compensation Committee is authorized to grant awards to employees, consultants and any other persons to whom the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan is applicable and to determine the number and types of such awards and the terms, conditions, vesting and other limitations applicable to each such award. The Compensation Committee has the power to interpret the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan and to adopt such rules and regulations as it considers necessary or appropriate for purposes of administering the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

On May 26, 2016, the Company's stockholders approved an amendment to the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock for issuance by 3,500,000 shares.

The following types of awards or any combination of awards may be granted under the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan: (i) NQOs, (ii) stock appreciation rights, (iii) restricted stock, (iv) restricted stock units, (v) performance-based awards, (vi) other stock-based awards, (vii) dividend equivalents and (viii) cash-based awards. The aggregate number of shares of the Company's common stock that are reserved for awards to be granted under the 2013 Stock Incentive Plan is 6,000,000 shares, subject to adjustments for stock splits, recapitalizations and other specified events.

Stock-based Compensation Expense

The fair value of options is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The valuation determined by the Black-Scholes pricing model is affected by the Company's stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of highly complex and subjective variables. These variables include, but are not limited to, expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, and actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors. The risk free rate is based on the U.S. Treasury rate for the expected life at the time of grant, volatility is based on the average long-term implied volatilities of peer companies and the expected life is based on the estimated average of the life of options using the simplified method as prescribed by ASC 718, *Compensation — Stock Compensation*. The Company utilizes the simplified method to determine the expected life of the options due to insufficient exercise activity during recent years as a basis from which to estimate future exercise patterns. The expected dividend assumption is based on the Company's history and expectation of dividend payouts.

In accordance with the provisions of ASU 2016-09, the Company reduces compensation cost for actual forfeitures as they occur.

The following table summarizes the Company's outstanding options:

	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)
	(in thousands, except share and per share data)		
Outstanding – January 1, 2017	129,501	\$ 9.65	2.3
Granted	—	—	
Exercised	—	—	
Forfeited or canceled	(45,500)	\$(11.49)	
Outstanding – January 1, 2018	84,001	\$ 8.65	2.1
Granted	—	—	
Exercised	—	—	
Forfeited or canceled	(34,500)	\$ (6.41)	
Outstanding – January 1, 2019	49,501	\$ 10.22	2.3
Granted	—	—	
Exercised	—	—	
Forfeited or canceled	(20,000)	(12.98)	
Outstanding at December 31, 2019	<u>29,501</u>	<u>\$ 8.35</u>	<u>2.4</u>
Exercisable – December 31, 2019	<u>29,501</u>	<u>\$ 8.35</u>	<u>2.4</u>

A summary of the changes in the Company's unvested stock options is as follows:

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

	<u>Number of Options</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value</u>
Unvested – January 1, 2017	5,000	\$ 1.96
Granted	—	—
Vested	(5,000)	(1.96)
Forfeited or canceled	—	—
Unvested – December 31, 2017	<u>—</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

There was no compensation expense related to stock options for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018. Total compensation expense related to stock options for the year ended December 31, 2017 was less than \$0.1 million. At December 31, 2019, there is no unrecognized compensation expense related to stock options.

Warrants

The following table summarizes the Company's outstanding warrants:

	<u>Number of Warrants</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)</u>	<u>Aggregate Intrinsic Value</u>
	(in thousands, except share and per share data)			
Outstanding – January 1, 2017	801,760	\$ 7.87	3.1	\$51
Granted	—	—		
Exercised	—	—		
Forfeited or canceled	(31,600)	\$ (5.75)		
Outstanding – January 1, 2018	770,160	\$ 7.87	2.2	\$—
Granted	—	—		
Exercised	—	—		
Forfeited or canceled	(570,160)	\$ (6.07)		
Outstanding – January 1, 2019	200,000	\$13.32	6.4	\$—
Granted	—	—		
Exercised	—	—		
Forfeited or canceled	—	—		
Outstanding at December 31, 2019	<u>200,000</u>	<u>\$13.32</u>	<u>5.4</u>	<u>\$—</u>
Exercisable – December 31, 2019	<u>200,000</u>	<u>\$13.32</u>	<u>5.4</u>	<u>\$—</u>

A summary of the changes in the Company's unvested warrants is as follows:

	<u>Number of Warrants</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value</u>
Unvested – January 1, 2017	50,000	\$6.32
Granted	—	—
Vested	(50,000)	6.32
Forfeited or canceled	—	—
Unvested – December 31, 2017	<u>—</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

There was no compensation expense related to warrants for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018. Total compensation expense related to warrants for the year ended December 31, 2017 was less than \$0.1 million. At December 31, 2019 there is no unrecognized compensation expense related to warrants.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Restricted Stock

A summary of the time-based restricted stock activity for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 is as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)
Unvested – January 1, 2017	258,787	\$ 8.45	2.1
Granted	111,112	3.60	
Vested	(174,363)	(6.73)	
Unvested – January 1, 2018	195,536	\$ 7.23	1.8
Granted	235,296	1.70	
Vested	(137,843)	(5.25)	
Unvested – January 1, 2019	292,989	\$ 3.72	0.9
Granted	464,576	0.86	
Vested	(235,296)	(1.70)	
Unvested – December 31, 2019	<u>522,269</u>	<u>\$ 0.85</u>	<u>0.5</u>

During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company granted 464,576 shares of time-based restricted stock to members of the Company's BOD. These shares had a grant date fair value of \$0.4 million and vest over a period of one year. The Company recorded \$0.3 million during the year ended December 31, 2019 as compensation expense in operating expenses from continuing operations pertaining to these grants.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company granted 235,296 shares of time-based restricted stock to members of the Company's BOD. These shares had a grant date fair value of \$0.4 million and vest over a period of one year. The Company recorded \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million during the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, as compensation expense in operating expenses from continuing operations pertaining to these grants.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company granted 111,112 shares of time-based restricted stock to members of the Company's BOD. These shares had a grant date fair value of \$0.4 million and vest over a period of one year. The Company recorded \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million during the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, as compensation expense in operating expenses from continuing operations pertaining to these grants.

Total compensation expense recorded in operating expenses from continued operations related to time-based restricted stock grants for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 was \$0.4 million, \$0.5 million, and \$0.6 million, respectively. Total unrecognized compensation expense related to time-based restricted stock grants at December 31, 2019 amounted to \$0.2 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 0.5 years.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Restricted Stock Units

A summary of the time-based restricted stock unit activity for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 is as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)
Unvested – January 1, 2017	326,667	\$ 8.52	2.5
Granted	688,836	3.18	
Vested	(219,103)	(8.29)	
Forfeited or canceled	(60,000)	(4.89)	
Unvested – January 1, 2018	736,400	\$ 3.89	2.2
Granted	2,678,743	1.77	
Vested	(1,732,523)	(2.18)	
Forfeited or canceled	(66,667)	(3.20)	
Unvested – January 1, 2019	1,615,953	\$ 2.24	2.2
Granted	—	—	
Vested	(997,644)	(2.44)	
Forfeited or canceled	(190,000)	(1.00)	
Unvested – December 31, 2019	<u>428,309</u>	<u>\$ 1.42</u>	<u>1.3</u>

The Company did not grant time-based restricted stock units during the year ended December 31, 2019.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company granted 1,835,257 time-based restricted stock units to certain employees and consultants for future services. These shares of time-based restricted stock units had a grant date fair value of \$3.2 million and vest immediately to over a period of five years. The Company recorded \$0.5 million and \$0.8 million during the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, as compensation expense in operating expenses from continuing operations pertaining to these grants.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company issued 843,486 time-based restricted stock units to an employee for a 2017 performance-based bonus pursuant to their employment agreement. The bonus was paid in restricted stock in the first quarter of 2018, based on the average closing stock price for the 30 days preceding March 1, 2018. Compensation expense recorded in operating expenses from continuing operations of \$1.5 million was fully recognized in 2017 related to this grant.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company granted 688,836 time-based restricted stock units to certain employees and consultants for future services. These shares of time-based restricted stock units had a grant date fair value of \$2.2 million and vest over a period of six months to three years. Included in this were 33,334 shares of time-based restricted stock units for the Company's former Chief Executive Officer which were accelerated during the year ended December 31, 2019. The Company recorded \$0.2 million, \$0.4 million and \$0.2 million during the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively, as compensation expense in operating expenses from continuing operations pertaining to these grants.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company accelerated the vesting of 83,334 shares of time-based restricted stock units for the Company's former Chief Executive Officer in connection with the CEO transition and an employee pursuant to their termination agreement. Total compensation expense related to

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

these shares of \$0.8 million was recorded in operating expenses from continued operations in the consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2017.

During the year ended December 31, 2016, the Company granted 260,000 shares of time-based restricted stock units to employees for future services. These shares of time-based restricted stock had a grant date fair value of \$1.8 million and vest over a period of three years. Included in this were 58,334 shares of time-based restricted stock units for the Company's former President which were accelerated during the year ended December 31, 2019. The Company recorded \$0.3 million, \$0.5 million and \$0.7 million during the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively, as compensation expense pertaining to this grant.

Total compensation expense recorded as operating expenses from continuing operations related to time-based restricted stock units grants for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 was \$1.2 million, \$1.6 million and \$1.7 million, respectively. Total accrued compensation expense related to performance-based restricted stock units for the year ended December 31, 2017 was \$1.5 million. Total unrecognized compensation expense related to time-based restricted stock units grants at December 31, 2019 amounted to \$0.4 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.3 years.

Performance Stock Units

A summary of the PSUs activity for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 is as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in Years)
Unvested – January 1, 2017	2,803,367	\$ 8.18	2.4
Granted	716,600	3.17	
Vested	(701,233)	(10.97)	
Forfeited or canceled	(773,100)	(7.22)	
Unvested – January 1, 2018	2,045,634	\$ 5.83	2.0
Granted	785,000	1.98	
Vested	(350,408)	(4.71)	
Forfeited or canceled	(260,408)	(7.32)	
Unvested – January 1, 2019	2,219,818	\$ 4.47	0.8
Granted	—	—	
Vested	(289,671)	(4.68)	
Forfeited or canceled	(1,800,218)	(4.43)	
Unvested – December 31, 2019	<u>129,929</u>	<u>\$ 4.51</u>	<u>—</u>

On March 27, 2019, the Compensation Committee voted to approve, on a discretionary basis, vesting of 231,396 PSUs to employees and consultants previously granted during the years ended December 31, 2016, 2017 and 2018 subject to achievement of certain of the Company's performance metrics within each fiscal year. The fair value and expense recorded for such PSUs was based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date the modification of the performance metric was communicated to employees and consultants. Total compensation expense related to these PSUs of \$0.2 million was recorded as operating expenses from continuing operations in the consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2019.

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company granted 135,000 PSUs to employees pursuant to their employment agreements. These PSUs had a grant date fair value of \$0.3 million, vest over a period

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

of one to two years and require achievement of certain performance metrics within each fiscal year for such PSUs to be earned. The Company issued 83,250 PSUs to an employee related to this grant. The fair value and expense recorded for such PSUs was based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date the performance metric was communicated to the employee. The Company recorded \$0.2 million in compensation expense during the year ended December 31, 2018 as operating expenses from continued operations in the consolidated statement of operations.

On February 20, 2018, the Compensation Committee voted to approve, on a discretionary basis, vesting of 208,883 PSUs to employees and consultants previously granted during the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2017 subject to achievement of certain of the Company's performance metrics within each fiscal year. The fair value and expense recorded for such PSUs was based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date the modification of the performance metric was communicated to employees and consultants. Total compensation expense related to these PSUs of \$0.5 million was recorded as operating expenses in the consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2018.

On July 25, 2017, the Compensation Committee voted to approve, on a discretionary basis, an award of 41,600 PSUs to employees and consultants. The fair value and expense recorded for such PSUs was based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date the modification of the performance metric was communicated to employees and consultants. The Company recorded expense related to this award for the year ended December 31, 2018 as part of the discretionary vesting approved by the Compensation Committee on February 20, 2018. No additional expense was recorded during the year ended December 31, 2018 as the likelihood of these PSUs being earned was not probable. The Company did not record any compensation expense during the year ended December 31, 2017 as the likelihood of these PSUs being earned was not probable.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company granted 175,000 PSUs to the Company's former Chief Executive Officer pursuant to an employment agreement, dated April 3, 2017. These PSUs had a grant date fair value of \$0.7 million and vest over a period of three years and require achievement of certain of the Company's performance metrics within each fiscal year for such PSUs to be earned. The Company recorded \$0.2 million in compensation expense during the year ended December 31, 2018 as the performance metrics were achieved pursuant to fiscal year end results. The Company recorded \$0.1 million in compensation expense during the year ended December 31, 2018 as the likelihood of these PSUs being earned was considered probable for the current fiscal year. No compensation expense was recorded for the year ended December 31, 2019 related to this grant.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company accelerated the vesting of 200,000 PSUs for the Company's former Chief Executive Officer in connection with the CEO transition. Total compensation expense related to these PSUs of \$2.9 million was recorded as operating expenses in the consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2017.

On February 28, 2017, the Compensation Committee voted to approve, on a discretionary basis, an award of 164,978 PSUs to employees and consultants. Included in the above award were 60,000 PSUs and 36,000 PSUs for the Company's former Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, respectively. The fair value and expense recorded for such PSUs was based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date the modification of the performance metric was communicated to employees and consultants. Total compensation expense related to these PSUs of \$0.6 million was recorded as operating expenses from continuing operations in the consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Total compensation expense related to the PSUs for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017 was \$0.2 million, \$0.9 million and \$3.5 million, respectively.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 15 — INCOME TAXES

The benefit from income taxes from continuing operations consists of the following:

	For the Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
	(in thousands)		
Federal:			
Current provision	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Deferred provision	(7,751)	(2,670)	(52,878)
	<u>(7,751)</u>	<u>(2,670)</u>	<u>(52,878)</u>
Foreign:			
Current provision	57	84	134
Deferred provision	—	—	—
	<u>57</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>134</u>
State:			
Current provision	—	30	178
Deferred provision	(1,001)	612	8,143
	<u>(1,001)</u>	<u>642</u>	<u>8,321</u>
Benefit from income taxes	<u><u>\$ (8,695)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (1,944)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (44,423)</u></u>

The difference between the benefit from income taxes and the expected income tax provision determined by applying the statutory federal and state income tax rates to pre-tax income are as follows:

	For the Year Ended December 31,		
	2019	2018	2017
Federal statutory rate	21.0%	21.0%	35.0%
State taxes, net of federal tax benefit	1.6	2.0	—
Goodwill impairment	—	—	(32.2)
Noncontrolling interest	(2.6)	8.3	0.5
Valuation allowance	—	(7.3)	5.3
Nondeductible compensation	(1.6)	(5.7)	(0.1)
Foreign taxes	(0.1)	(0.5)	—
Other	(0.6)	(3.1)	(0.7)
Tax Cuts and Jobs Act	—	—	5.6
Change in state tax rates	—	(0.8)	—
	<u>17.7%</u>	<u>13.9%</u>	<u>13.4%</u>

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

On December 22, 2017, the U.S. enacted the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (“Tax Act”) that instituted fundamental changes to the taxation of multinational corporations. The Tax Act includes changes to the taxation of foreign earnings by implementing a dividend exemption system, expansion of the current anti-deferral rules, a minimum tax on low-taxed foreign earnings and new measures to deter base erosion. The Tax Act also includes a permanent reduction in the corporate tax rate to 21%, repeal of the corporate alternative minimum tax, expensing of capital investment, and limitation of the deduction for interest expense.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Furthermore, as part of the transition to the new tax system, a one-time transition tax is imposed on a U.S. shareholder's historical undistributed earnings of foreign affiliates. Although the Tax Act was generally effective as of January 1, 2018, GAAP required recognition of the tax effects of new legislation during the reporting period that included the enactment date, which was December 22, 2017.

The components of the Company's consolidated deferred income tax balances as of December 31, 2019 and 2018 are as follows:

	December 31,	
	2019	2018
	(in thousands)	
Deferred income tax assets		
Net operating loss carryforwards	\$ 32,565	\$ 51,042
Capital loss carryforwards	2,997	4,417
Intangible assets – finite life	3,137	3,261
Stock-based compensation	286	439
Property and equipment	—	3,649
Deferred rent	—	799
Credits carryforward	1,148	1,281
Deferred revenue	1,939	2,755
Deferred interest expense	9,984	8,644
Deferred compensation	—	1,053
Operating lease liability	13,215	—
Other	4,791	3,585
	<u>70,062</u>	<u>80,925</u>
Deferred income tax liability – long-term		
Intangible assets – indefinite-lived	(57,343)	(130,818)
Right-of-use asset – operating leases	(11,625)	—
Property and equipment	(193)	—
	<u>(69,161)</u>	<u>(130,818)</u>
Less: Valuation allowance	<u>(15,252)</u>	<u>(17,109)</u>
Net deferred income tax liability – long-term	<u><u>\$(14,351)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (67,002)</u></u>

In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred income tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred income tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. Management considers the scheduled reversal of deferred income tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, and tax planning strategies in making this assessment. Based on consideration of these items and tax provisions under the Tax Act, primarily the new limitation on interest expense deductions, management determined that enough certainty existed to warrant the release of the valuation allowance recorded against substantially all the Company's deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2017. As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, a valuation allowance of \$15.3 million and \$17.1 million, respectively, has been recognized for deferred income taxes that may not be realized by the Company in future periods. The valuation allowance at December 31, 2019 and 2018 primarily relates to state net operating losses and capital loss carryforwards.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

The Company has federal NOLs available to carryforward to future periods of \$107.8 million as of December 31, 2019 which begin expiring in 2029. The Company has state NOLs available to carryforward to future periods of \$179.0 million as of December 31, 2019 which begin expiring in 2020. The Company has foreign tax credits available to carryforward to future periods of \$0.5 million as of December 31, 2019 which begin expiring in 2020. The Company has experienced several changes of ownership under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), which places various limitations on the NOLs. The limitations on NOLs are based upon a formula provided under Section 382 of the Code that is based on the fair market value of the Company and prevailing interest rates at the time of the ownership change. An “ownership change” is generally a 50% increase in ownership over a three-year period by stockholders who directly or indirectly own at least five percent of a company’s stock. The limitations on the use of the NOLs under Section 382 could affect the Company’s ability to offset future taxable income.

The Company currently files U.S. federal tax returns and various state tax returns. Tax years that remain open for assessment for federal and state purposes include years ended December 31, 2016 through December 31, 2019.

The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in the tax provision. The Company has no unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2019 and 2018.

NOTE 16 — RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Consulting Services Agreement with Tengram Capital Partners, L.P. (f/k/a Tengram Capital Management L.P.)

Pursuant to an agreement with Tengram Capital Partners, L.P., formerly known as Tengram Capital Management, L.P. (“TCP”), an affiliate of Tengram Capital Partners Gen2 Fund, L.P., which is one of the Company’s largest stockholders, the Company had engaged TCP, effective as of January 1, 2013, to provide services to the Company pertaining to (i) mergers and acquisitions, (ii) debt and equity financing and (iii) such other related areas as the Company may reasonably request from time to time (the “TCP Agreement”). TCP was entitled to receive annual compensation of \$1.0 million, including fees and reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses in connection with performing its services under the TCP Agreement. The TCP Agreement remained in effect for a period continuing through the earlier of five years or the date on which TCP and its affiliates cease to own in excess of 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock in the Company. On August 15, 2014, the Company consummated transactions pursuant to an agreement and plan of merger, dated as of June 24, 2014 (the “Galaxy Merger Agreement”) with SBG Universe Brands LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the Company’s direct wholly-owned subsidiary (“LLC Sub”), Universe Galaxy Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation and direct wholly-owned subsidiary of LLC Sub, Galaxy Brand Holdings, Inc. and Carlyle Galaxy Holdings, L.P. (such transactions, collectively, the “Galaxy Acquisition”). In connection with the Galaxy Merger Agreement, the Company and TCP entered into an amendment to the TCP Agreement (the “Amended TCP Agreement”), pursuant to which, among other things, TCP was entitled to receive annual fees of \$0.9 million beginning with fiscal year 2014. The Amended TCP Agreement terminated as of December 31, 2019.

The Company paid TCP \$0.9 million, \$0.7 million, and \$0.9 million for services under the Amended TCP Agreement during the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. The Company reimbursed TCP \$0.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2019 and less than \$0.1 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 for out-of-pocket expenses in connection with their services. These amounts are included in operating expenses from continuing operations in the Company’s consolidated financial statements. At December 31, 2019, there was \$0.2 million due to TCP for services and less than \$0.1 million due for reimbursement of expenses. At December 31, 2018, there was \$0.2 million due to TCP for services and less than \$0.1 million due for reimbursement of expenses. The Company paid \$1.8 million in transaction fees to TCP related to the sale of MSLO during the year ended December 31, 2019 recorded in discontinued operations in the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

Additionally, in July 2013, the Company entered into a consulting arrangement with an employee of TCP (the “TCP Employee”), pursuant to which the TCP Employee provides legal and other consulting services at the request of the Company from time to time. The TCP Employee was also issued 125,000 shares of restricted stock, vesting over a four-year period and 180,000 PSUs, vesting over three years in increments of 20% for 2014, 20% for 2015 and 60% for 2016. During the year ended December 31, 2016, the TCP employee was granted 200,000 PSUs, vesting over three years in increments of 33.3% for 2017, 33.3% for 2018 and 33.4% for 2019. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the TCP employee was granted 150,000 shares of time-based restricted stock units, vesting over a three year period and 300,000 shares of time-based restricted stock units, vesting over a three year period with 25% vesting immediately. The Company paid the TCP Employee \$0.3 million, \$0.3 million and \$0.4 million for services under the consulting arrangement during the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. These amounts are included in operating expenses from continuing operations in the Company’s consolidated financial statements. The Company and the TCP Employee terminated the consulting arrangement during the third quarter of 2019. The Company accelerated the vesting of the unvested shares of the TCP Employee’s time-based restricted stock units. At December 31, 2019, no amounts were due to the TCP Employee. At December 31, 2018, less than \$0.1 million was due to the TCP Employee.

Transactions with Tommie Copper, Inc.

The Company entered into an agreement with Tommie Copper, Inc. (“TCI”), an affiliate of TCP, under which the Company received a vendor placement fee for facilitating certain distribution arrangements. The Company recorded \$3.1 million of revenue from continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2018. At December 31, 2018, the Company had a current receivable of \$1.1 million from TCI in accounts receivable and a long-term receivable of \$1.9 million from TCI in other assets in the consolidated balance sheet. During the year ended December 31, 2019, the Company reserved \$2.9 million related to the outstanding receivable balance recorded in operating expenses from continuing operations in the consolidated statement of operations as TCI could not adhere to its original payment terms and new extended payment terms have been negotiated. At December 31, 2019, the Company had a net current receivable of \$0.1 million due from TCI.

Transactions with E.S. Originals, Inc.

A division president of the Company maintains a passive ownership interest in one of the Company’s licensees, E.S. Originals, Inc. (“ESO”). The Company receives royalties from ESO under license agreements for certain of the Company’s brands in the footwear category. The Company recorded \$4.9 million, \$8.4 million and \$18.1 million of revenue for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively, for royalties, commissions and advertising revenue earned from ESO license agreements. At December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company had \$2.8 million and \$6.2 million, respectively, recorded as accounts receivable and \$0.2 million and \$1.9 million, respectively, as a long-term receivable in other assets from ESO in the consolidated balance sheets.

In addition, the Company entered into a license-back agreement with ESO under which the Company reacquired the rights to certain international territories in order to re-license these rights to an unrelated party. The Company recorded approximately \$1.3 million and \$0.3 million in license-back expense for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Transactions with Centric Brands Inc. (f/k/a Differential Brands Group, Inc.)

During the fourth quarter of 2018, Centric Brands, Inc. (“Centric”) acquired a significant portion of Global Brands Group Holding Limited’s (“GBG”) North American licensing business. The Company entered into an agreement with Centric, an affiliate of TCP, under which the Company received a rights transfer fee of \$4.0 million related to the *Joe’s* license. During the fourth quarter of 2019, the Company and Centric entered into a license agreement under the *Jessica Simpson* brand. The Company recorded

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

\$6.6 million and approximately \$1.2 million for royalty revenue earned from continuing operations from Centric for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively. At December 31, 2019 and 2018, the Company had \$1.0 million and \$0.8 million, respectively, recorded as accounts receivable from Centric in the consolidated balance sheets.

Acquisition of FUL

On November 17, 2014, the Company made a strategic investment in FUL IP. FUL IP is a collaborative investment between the Company and JALP. FUL IP was formed for the purpose of licensing the *FUL* trademark to third parties in connection with the manufacturing, distribution, marketing and sale of *FUL* branded bags, backpacks, duffels, luggage and apparel accessories. JALP contributed the *FUL* trademark with a fair value of \$8.9 million. In exchange for a 50.5% economic interest in FUL IP the Company paid JALP \$4.5 million. JALP's minority member interest in FUL IP has been reflected as noncontrolling interest on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. One of the Company's directors, Mr. Al Gossett, has a partial ownership interest in JALP. There was \$0.5 million, \$0.7 million and \$2.2 million of noncontrolling interest loss recorded during the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. The Company sold the *FUL* trademark during the year ended December 31, 2018. The noncontrolling interest loss for the year ended December 31, 2019 was due to the write off of a \$0.9 million receivable related to the previous sale of the *FUL* trademark.

Investment in Equity Securities

In September 2015, the Company purchased equity securities of Iconix Brand Group, Inc., an unaffiliated third-party publicly traded company, from Tengram Capital Partners, L.P., which is an affiliate of Tengram Capital Partners Gen2 Fund, L.P., one of the Company's largest stockholders, for an aggregate purchase price of \$12.0 million (plus related transaction expenses), which was the purchase price paid by Tengram Capital Partners, L.P. upon the acquisition of such equity securities in open market transactions. The Company did not pay a fee or any compensation to Tengram Capital Partners, L.P. in connection with the Company's investment in the equity securities. The Company sold its equity securities during the year ended December 31, 2017.

Registration Rights Agreement

On June 22, 2015, Martha Stewart, the Martha Stewart Family Limited Partnership, Alexis Stewart, the Martha Stewart 1999 Family Trust, the Martha Stewart 2000 Family Trust and the Martha and Alexis Stewart Charitable Foundation (collectively, the "Stewart Stockholders") entered into an agreement (the "Registration Rights Agreement") with the Company, which grants the Stewart Stockholders certain "demand" registration rights for up to two offerings of greater than \$15 million each, certain "S-3" registration rights for up to three offerings of greater than \$5 million each and "piggyback" registration rights with respect to the shares of the Company's common stock held by the Stewart Stockholders (whether issued pursuant Mergers or acquired thereafter) and their transferees. All reasonable expenses incident to such registrations generally are required to be borne by the Company. The Registration Rights Agreement became effective on December 4, 2015.

NOTE 17 — PROFIT SHARING PLAN

The Company has established a 401(k) profit-sharing plan for the benefit of eligible employees. The Company may make contributions to the plan as determined by the BOD. The Company accrued a matching contribution, net of forfeitures, of \$0.3 million, \$0.1 million and \$0.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 18 — QUARTERLY DATA (UNAUDITED)

Unaudited quarterly consolidated financial information from continuing operations for 2019 and 2018 is summarized as follows:

	<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>	<u>Full Year</u>
	(in thousands, except per share data)				
2019					
Net revenue	\$ 25,524	\$26,415	\$ 25,392	\$ 24,245	\$ 101,576
Income (loss) from continuing operations	9,978	12,508	(19,964)	4,274	6,796
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(3,473)	(2,214)	(33,855)	(9,529)	(49,071)
Loss from continuing operations	(3,232)	(1,835)	(27,820)	(7,489)	(40,376)
Net (income) loss from continuing operations attributable to noncontrolling interests	(1,539)	(1,455)	9,449	(419)	6,036
Loss from continuing operations attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(4,771)	(3,290)	(18,371)	(7,908)	(34,340)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	(120,574)	(1,309)	(309)	(2,871)	(125,063)
Net loss attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	<u>\$ (125,345)</u>	<u>\$ (4,599)</u>	<u>\$ (18,680)</u>	<u>\$ (10,779)</u>	<u>\$ (159,403)</u>
Basic and diluted loss per share:					
Continued operations	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.28)	\$ (0.12)	
Discontinued operations	(1.88)	(0.02)	(0.00)	(0.04)	
Attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(1.95)	(0.07)	(0.29)	(0.16)	
	<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>	<u>Full Year</u>
	(in thousands, except per share data)				
2018					
Net revenue	\$29,463	\$33,126	\$ 29,455	\$35,246	\$127,290
Income (loss) from continuing operations	11,183	17,723	(3,858)	17,003	42,051
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(2,478)	3,742	(17,689)	2,519	(13,906)
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(1,555)	3,301	(8,881)	(4,827)	(11,962)
Net income from continuing operations attributable to noncontrolling interests	(1,960)	(1,102)	(1,581)	(863)	(5,506)
(Loss) income from continuing operations attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(3,515)	2,199	(10,462)	(5,690)	(17,468)
Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	1,253	1,388	847	3,496	6,984
Net (loss) income attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	<u>\$ (2,262)</u>	<u>\$ 3,587</u>	<u>\$ (9,615)</u>	<u>\$ (2,194)</u>	<u>\$ (10,484)</u>
Basic (loss) earnings per share:					
Continued operations	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.03	\$ (0.16)	\$ (0.09)	
Discontinued operations	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.05	
Attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(0.04)	0.06	(0.15)	(0.03)	

SEQUENTIAL BRANDS GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2019, 2018 AND 2017

	<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>	<u>Full Year</u>
	(in thousands, except per share data)				
Diluted (loss) earnings per share:					
Continued operations	\$(0.06)	\$0.02	\$(0.16)	\$(0.09)	
Discontinued operations	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.05	
Attributable to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries	(0.04)	0.06	(0.15)	(0.03)	

NOTE 19 — SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus disease (“COVID-19”) as a pandemic, which continues to spread throughout the U.S. COVID-19 is having an unprecedented impact on the U.S. economy as federal, state and local governments react to this public health crisis. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, there is significant uncertainty surrounding the potential impact on the Company’s results of operations and cash flows. Continued impacts of the pandemic could materially adversely affect our near-term and long-term revenues, earnings, liquidity and cash flows as our licensees may request temporary relief, delay or not make scheduled payments. The Company is proactively taking steps to increase available cash on hand including utilizing funds available under its Revolving Credit Facility.

Subsequent to December 31, 2019, and through March 31, 2020, the Company made net borrowings of \$7.1 million on its Revolving Credit Facility. As of March 31, 2020, the Company had a total of \$22.7 million drawn down under its Revolving Credit Facility.

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (“CARES”) Act was enacted and signed into law. Certain provisions of the CARES Act impact the 2019 income tax provision computations of the Company and will be reflected in the first quarter of 2020, or the period of enactment. The CARES Act contains modifications on the limitation of business interest for tax years beginning in 2019 and 2020. The modifications to Section 163(j) increase the allowable business interest deduction from 30% of adjusted taxable income to 50% of adjusted taxable income. This modification would significantly increase the allowable interest expense deduction of the Company and result in significantly less taxable income for the year-ended 2019, resulting in less utilization of net operating losses in that year. The change in the interest expense limitation pursuant to the CARES Act will not have an impact to the first quarter of 2020, other than an increase in the net operating loss deferred tax asset. As a result of the CARES Act, it is anticipated that the Company will fully utilize all interest expense that was deferred beginning in 2018 with no additional disallowed interest expense in 2020.

On March 30, 2020, the Company entered into the Fourth Amendment to its Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the “New FS/KKR Credit Agreement”) with the FS/KKR Agent and the FS/KKR Facility Loan Parties. Pursuant to the New FS/KKR Credit Agreement, no mandatory amortization payments are required until September 30, 2020. Thereafter, the loans under the New FS/KKR Credit Agreement will be subject to quarterly amortization payments of approximately \$2.1 million. The New FS/KKR Credit Agreement modifies the calculation of Consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the agreement) by permitting additional addbacks. The New FS/KKR Credit Agreement allows for the netting of up to \$5 million in cash of the Company and its subsidiaries for purposes of calculating the leverage ratio covenants, except for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 which allows for netting of up to \$10 million in cash. If the Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio is not equal to or less than 5:50:1:00 (on a pro forma basis) on July 31, 2020, Sequential shall amend its organization documents to add one new independent director acceptable to the lenders under the New FS/KKR Credit Agreement to sit on its Board of Directors.

Schedule II — Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

Sequential Brands Group, Inc. (in thousands)

Description	Balance at Beginning of Period	Additions Charged to Costs and Expenses	Deductions	Balance at End of Period
Reserves and allowance deducted from asset accounts:				
Accounts receivable ^(a) :				
Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$ 1,819	\$4,123	\$ (105)	\$ 5,837
Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$ 372	\$1,547	\$ (100)	\$ 1,819
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$ 221	\$ 482	\$ (331)	\$ 372
Valuation allowance on deferred tax assets ^(b) :				
Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$ 17,109	\$ —	\$ (1,857)	\$15,252
Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$ 17,404	\$ —	\$ (295)	\$17,109
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$110,829	\$ —	\$(93,425)	\$17,404

(a) These amounts include reserves for doubtful accounts.

(b) Changes are recognized in the provision for (benefit from) income taxes.

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statements on Form S-8 (File No. 333-215508), Form S-3 (File No. 333-208120) and Form S-8 (File No. 333-208343) of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. of our reports dated March 31, 2020 on our audits of the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2019 and 2018 and each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2019, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2019, included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Sequential Brands Group, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2019.

/s/ CohnReznick LLP
New York, New York
March 31, 2020

**Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to
Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14
as Adopted Pursuant to
Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, David Conn, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Sequential Brands Group, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting, which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 31, 2020

/s/ David Conn

David Conn
Chief Executive Officer

**Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to
Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14
as Adopted Pursuant to
Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, Daniel Hanbridge, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Sequential Brands Group, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting, which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 31, 2020

/s/ Daniel Hanbridge

Daniel Hanbridge

Senior Vice President and Interim Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATIONS PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, in connection with the filing of the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year Ended December 31, 2019 (the 'Report') by Sequential Brands Group, Inc. ('Registrant'), the undersigned hereby certify that, to the best of their knowledge:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Registrant.

Date: March 31, 2020

/s/ David Conn

David Conn
Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)

Date: March 31, 2020

/s/ Daniel Hanbridge

Daniel Hanbridge
Senior Vice President and Interim Chief Financial
Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and will be retained by Sequential Brands Group, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Board of Directors

David Conn
Chief Executive Officer and Secretary
Sequential Brands Group, Inc.
Class I Director

William Sweedler
Co-Founder and Managing Partner
Tengram Capital Partners
Class I Director, Chairman of the Board

Martha Stewart
Chief Creative Officer
Marquee Brands
Class I Director

Rodney S. Cohen
Head of Private Equity
Black Diamond Capital Management
Class II Director

Gary Johnson (2, 3)
Chairman, CAN Capital
Class II Director

Stewart Leonard, Jr. (1, 3)
President and Chief Executive Officer
Stew Leonard's
Class II Director

Al Gossett (1, 2, 3)
President and Chief Executive Officer
Gossett Motor Cars
Class III Director

Aaron Hollander (1, 2)
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and
President, First Aviation Services, Inc.
Class III Director

1 – Audit Committee Member 2 – Compensation Committee Member 3 – Governance Committee Member

Management

David Conn
Chief Executive Officer and Secretary

Daniel Hanbridge
SVP and Interim Chief Financial Officer

Chad Wagenheim
President

Corporate Office

Sequential Brands Group, Inc.
601 West 26th Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10001
www.sequentialbrandsgroup.com

Annual Meeting

Friday June 5, 2020 10:00 a.m. at the Company's Corporate Office

Independent Auditors

CohnReznick LLP
1301 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10019

Transfer Agent

Computershare Trust Co. N.A.
Tel.: (877) 373-6374
Outside U.S. Tel.: (781) 575-2879

Mailing Addresses:

Shareholder correspondence should be mailed to:

Computershare Investor Services
P.O. BOX 505000
Louisville, KY 40233-5000

Overnight correspondence should be sent to:

Computershare Investor Services
462 South 4th Street
Suite 1600
Louisville, KY 40202

Questions and Inquires via Website: <http://www.computershare.com>
Hearing Impaired # TDD: (800) 952-9245

Information Requests

A copy of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, including the exhibits thereto, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is available free of charge to stockholders either on the Company's website or upon request to:

Sequential Brands Group, Inc.
Attn: Investor Relations
601 West 26th Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10001
Tel.: (646) 564-2577

About Sequential Brands Group, Inc.

Sequential Brands Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: SQBG) owns, promotes, markets, and licenses a portfolio of consumer brands in the lifestyle and active categories. Sequential seeks to ensure that its brands continue to thrive and grow by employing strong brand management and marketing teams. Sequential has licensed and intends to license its brands in a variety of consumer categories to retailers, wholesalers and distributors in the United States and around the world. For more information, please visit Sequential's website at: www.sequentialbrandsgroup.com. To inquire about licensing opportunities, please email: newbusiness@sbg-ny.com.



WILLIAM RAST ✓

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

**601 W 26TH ST, 9TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10001
646.564.2577**

WWW.SEQUENTIALBRANDSGROUP.COM